PO Box 295
Olympia, WA 98507

THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

Vol. 3, No. 6 October 1992

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WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Law and justice are not always the same. When they aren't, destroying the law may be the first step towards changing it." Gloria Steinem

Free

Women Protest Parole Board

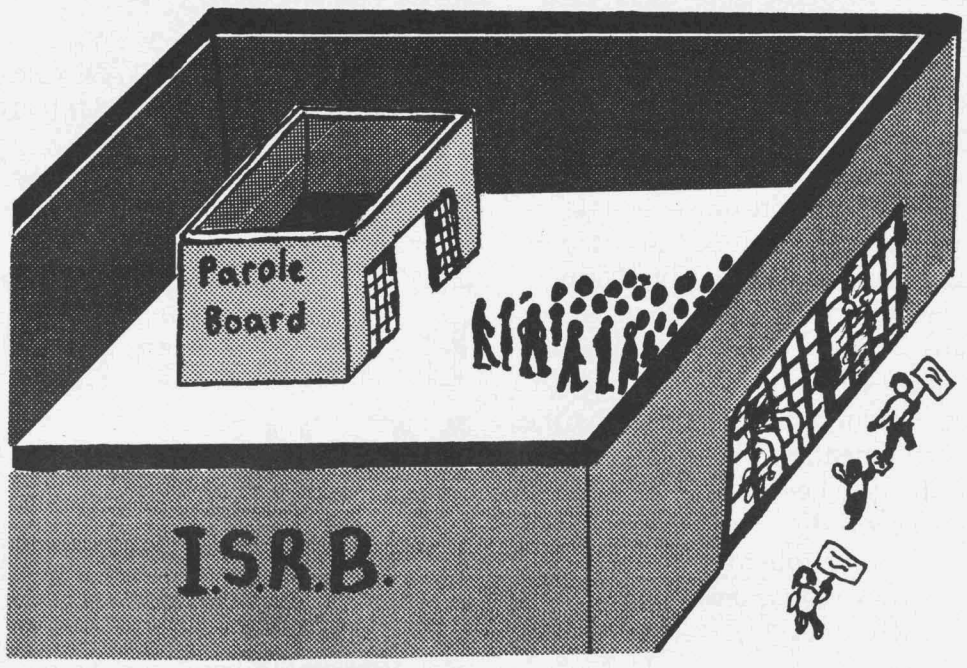
Carol Poole

There appears to be a controversy around Washington state's parole board, the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board (ISRB).

On a weekday in mid-September, I met a small group of women on the Capitol grounds holding picket signs that read "Abolish the ISRB" and similar messages.

I spoke with three of the women as they took a break, sitting on the Capitol steps. They said they were protesting on behalf of their husbands, who are all prisoners at McNeil Island. The parole board, they said, is unfairly lengthening their husbands' time in prison to prolong its own existence.

As I later confirmed, the ISRB is a transitional body, currently scheduled to be phased out by 1998. The women explained to me that Washington has changed to a new set of sentencing guidelines which eliminates the need for a parole board. Today when someone is convicted of a crime, he or she bypasses the parole board entirely, receiving a fixed or "determinate" sentence from a judge, according to a uniform statewide set of guidelines.



The women protesting are married to prisoners sentenced before the new guidelines were passed. These men belong to a group of about 2,000 men and women prisoners statewide who were sentenced under an obsolete set of rules. Called "indeterminate" prisoners or "old guideliners," they are the parole board's final caseload.

The Board's mission is to streamline, or "transition," the indeterminate prisoners into the new, determinate sentencing system. Each prisoner's sentence and record have to be reviewed by the Board, which must prepare a final report and recommendations before handing the prisoner's case over to the judiciary. When all the "old guideliners" have been "transitioned," the ISRB will be out of business.

The original purpose of the new guidelines was to make sentencing more accountable to the public, and to save money by reducing sentences for most crimes other than crimes of physical violence. The legislation that changed the guidelines, the Sentencing Reform Act of 1981, was drafted with citizen input, with the intent to promote fairness and to relieve overcrowding in prisons.

The parole board, they said, was unfairly lengthening their husbands' time in prison to prolong its own existence.

The women protesting at the capitol are wondering when these changes will reach them. Originally due to complete its mission by 1988, then extended to 1992, the ISRB has received another extension of its deadline until 1998.

The effect, according to the women, is a bureaucratic limbo. Contrary to the general trend to relieve overcrowding, they claim that their husbands are being made to serve maximum time for original offenses, for parole violations and for technicalities. They complain about red tape and inexplicable procedural irregularities. They say that their husbands are serving longer sentences than are newer prisoners with more serious crime convictions.

"Mine would have served 8 months [under the new guidelines]," said Roberta Glassy, of Tacoma. "He's been in 2 1/2 years."

"If you change the guidelines for sentencing, everyone should be treated the same," said Janice Stice of Port Orchard, who is preparing a suit against the ISRB on behalf of her husband. She claims that her husband, although he has not been convicted of a violent crime, is being "maxed out," or incarcerated for the

(Continued on back page.)

A Feasible Solution to Global Poverty

Maureen Riley

"If there is the political will in this country and abroad... it should be possible to overcome the worst aspects of widespread hunger and malnutrition within one generation."

World Food and Nutrition Study, National Academy of Sciences

Many people I talk to would like to become politically active and foresee social change but do not know how to get involved. Pessimism has taken over many Americans view of our political system. Of course there is a small minority that keeps forging ahead to create changes within the mighty bureaucracy. The smaller the minority, the harder it is to create the change within our capitalist system, especially since most of the structural and systemic changes being made today further big business.

Recently, I began an internship with an organization called RESULTS, whose slogan is "creating the political will to end hunger." RESULTS is a grassroots lobbing organization that trues to break through the "I don't make a difference" attitude=de which runs rampant in our society. People just let things happen around them and feel no connection with their government or representatives. Once citizens are shown that they can effect policy decisions, it is often the motivation they need to become politically active.

Once citizens are shown that they can effect policy decisions, it is often the motivation they need to become politically active.

Based in Washington D.C., RESULTS consists of 24 regional coordinators and has over 450 volunteers. There are 109 US chapters and 50 international chapters, located in 7 other countries. Volunteers in area chapters meet three times a month to discuss issues and write letters to politicians. They also hold press conferences that generate awareness around these crucial topics.

RESULTS concentrates on building Congressional and public support for pieces of legislation that deal directly with poverty issues. By urging members of congress to support bills, they work within the systemic bounds to directly effect

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Letters

Hate Crimes Article Draws Response

To whom it may concern,

I am outraged by your coverstory, "Zero Tolerance for Hate Crimes" on the cover of August 1992 "Works In Progress." As National Director for a local white supremacy group, or 'Racist Organization' as you may prefer to call it, I feel that articles like that do nothing but give people a false sense of insecurity and needless alarm. It also distorts their perception of what our message really is.

It is also my feeling that Hate Crimes are a direct result of groups, such as yours, trying to push and promote degenerate issues on people who really don't want it. Such issues are multi-culturalism, and equal rights for all. Blacks and minorities may be your equals, but they certainly aren't mine. Nor does your acceptance of them require me to. For example, take a dog who hates leashes and try to put a leash on him. That dog will fight and bite to keep it off. The same goes for us, try to push blacks, Jews, and Mexicans, and any other minority on us and proud whites will fight back, instinctively.

It is my god given right to be white, and it's also my right to hate minorities, so long as I don't instigate, participate in, or involve myself with violence against them. (Obviously there are other relevant laws, I'm not going to list them all.)

Lastly, it is not the weak who are cruel, but the personas who oppress the weak who are cruel. With my race at 16% of the total world population, I consider my race to be weak.

Racially,
Paul J. Morris, National Dir.
Nationalist Aryan Knights

P.S. The above letter is totally the opinion of the author, Paul Morris, and is not to be taken as insinuatingly violent, intimidating, or other, but only as one persons point of view.

Vote Clinton

To WIP:

I can't believe that I'm reading diatribe *against* voting for Clinton/Gore in the pages of *WIP* (Sept issue, pp. 12-14). Don't your columnists realize that Clinton will only be president for a maximum of eight years? How long will Bush's present and future Supreme Court appointees be serving? Probably well into the next century. Sure, Clinton and Gore weren't my first choices as Democratic nominees, but I'm sure as hell going to vote for them, because a vote for them is a vote for the next several Supreme Court Justices.

Our nation does not need any more Clarence Thomases, Antonin Scalias, or David Kennedys on its highest bench. A fully Bushified Supreme Court is the greatest threat to our way of life since the late lamented Evil Empire dismantled its nuke arsenal. Please give women, children, the poor, African-Americans, Native Americans, Latinos, Asian/Pacific Islanders, other ethnic communities, gays, lesbians, the environment, and even middle-aged white male heteros like me a break.

Two words give all the reason in the word to vote for Clinton/Gore. The two words are "SUPREME COURT!"

Jens Lund

A TIME TO HEAL

YOUR BODY HAS BEEN INVADED
AND YOU NOW FEEL SO DEGRADED
YOU HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO LET THEM IN
BUT KNOW THIS, YOU WHERE NOT THE ONE WHO MADE THE SIN
AND NOW THROUGH THIS EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE NIGHTMARES
AND YOU BEGIN TO WONDER IF ANYONE CARES
WHEN YOU TRY TO TELL SOMEONE WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU
IT'S LIKE YOU JUST CAN'T BRAKE THROUGH AND SOMETIMES
PEOPLE REMIND YOU OF THE ATTACK
AND YOU START TO HAVE A TOTAL FLASHBACK
THE EMOTIONAL RESPONSE IS ANGER, HURT, AND PAIN
AND YOU THINK TO YOURSELF WHAT DID THIS PERSON HAVE TO GAIN
OH YES IT'S A TRAUMA THAT WILL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU
AND IT NEVER GOES AWAY NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO
JUST TRY TO BE POSITIVE ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL
AND REMEMBER IT'S A TIME TO HEAL.

CATHY DURRETT

Environmental, Labor and Social Justice

Building Links in a Multi-racial Society

Nov. 13-15 1992
The Evergreen State College

This conference's purpose is to overcome the divisions which have traditionally separated efforts to create a sustainable environment from efforts to maintain employment and viable communities in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia. We will strive to develop a common language, organizational understanding and linkages among groups working on the issues of labor, environment, race, poverty and social justice.

Panel and workshop presentations will have regional and national representatives from organized labor, environmental and community groups. Discussion question will include: What is our common history? What are our current problems and prospects? Where have we made mistakes and what opportunities have we missed? Where is the common ground? And how do we work together to achieve this common ground?

Workshops include:

1) Resources, Needs & Plans: What the Labor, Environmental and Social Justice Movements Need to Know about Each Other
2) Chemical Hazards in our Workplace and Communities: From Knowledge to Action
3) Natural Resources, Economies, and Sustainable Communities: Forest, Fisheries and Farms
4) Strengthening the Rights and Protections for Workers, Victims, Whistleblowers and Activists
5) Common Ground: From Environmental Racism to Environmental Justice
6) Rules and Regulations: Legislative Strategies to Protect Jobs and Ecosystems
7) Free Trade? The Fast Track Toward Poverty and Environmental Degradation.

Representatives from the labor, environmental and community groups met five times beginning in the fall of 1991 to create the framework for this conference. It is the goal of the planning group to set the stage for future coalitions around the issues critical to labor and environmental groups.

Evergreen's Labor Education Center and the Master of Environmental Studies Program are requesting cosponsorship with a suggested $200 donation or in-kind services donation.

For further information, please contact: Helen Lee, Associate Director, The Evergreen State College Labor Center, (206) 866-6000, x 6525 or Anna Bachmann, MES Program (206) 866-6000, x 6707.

A conference organized by Evergreen's Labor Education Center and the Master of Environmental Studies Program. (Registration fees are $25 regular, $15 student & $10 senior)

Attend Theatrical Production "Ka-Hanuka Pakoos"!

As part of the activities in Olympia challenging the celebration of the Columbus Quincentennial, the play "Ka-Hanuka Pakoos—Columbus in Jamestown" will be performed by One World Theater on in the Library Lobby at the Evergreen State College.

Tuesday, Oct. 6th
7 P.M.
Evergreen State College

The play, written by the seven member ensemble of One World Theater and playwright Jeannette Allen, a member of the Nez Perce Nation and Seattle's Red Eagle Soaring, takes place between 1492 and 2492. It is humorous, dramatic and historical. This play combines Western theatrical conventions of character, dialogue, mask and movement with Native American forms of storytelling, drumming and ritual dance.

One World Theater has been a professional touring theater since 1988. It has been touring the United States, Canada and Russia for the last seven months with this play, "Ka-Hanuka Pakoos", a Nez Perce phrase meaning "A New Beginning". The play has received outstanding reviews wherever they have performed.

There will be no charge! Childcare will be available. For more information call Pete B. at 866-6000 X6431 or Julia at 866-6000, X6144.

Sponsored by the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace, the Evergreen Political Information Center, the MPA program at the Evergreen State Collge, various academic programs at Evergreen and other groups.

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Dave Campbell, Katharine Dawdy, Pat Holm, Kirsten Holm, Evelyn Montague, Jerome Johnson, Marie Smith, Zachary D. Lyons, Teresa Jennings, Marvin Saillard, Chris Russo, Dorothy Tassoni, Sylvia Smith, Carol Poole, Pat Tassoni, Greg Hohnnolt, Al Zimmerman

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Keep those letters and cards coming. Correspondence and articles are always welcome. If possible submit articles on disk (WordPerfect). WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions; so for editing purposes please enclose your phone number. Send submissions to Works in Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507.

Playing War is a Dangerous Game

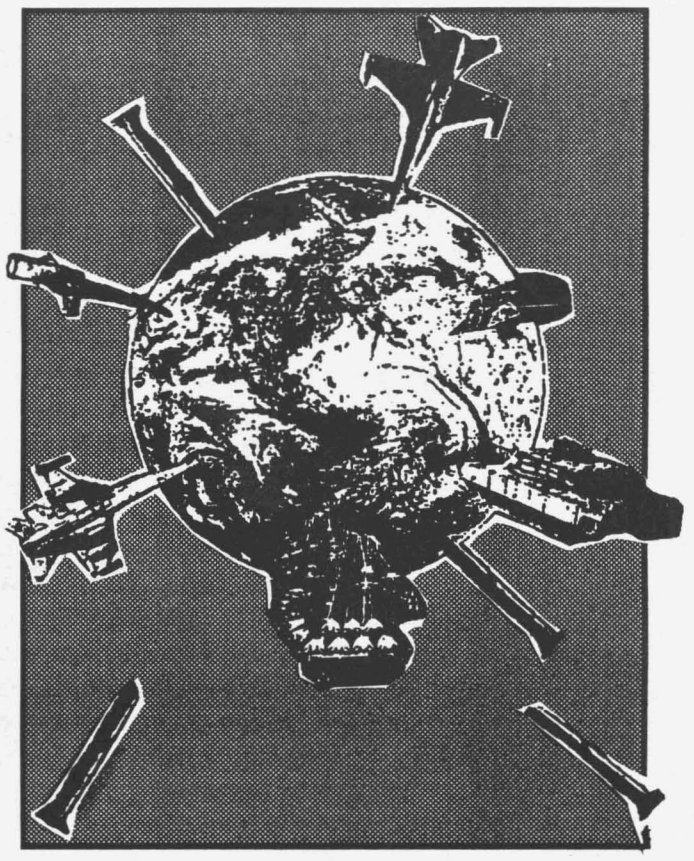
Jean-Michel Cousteau

It begins in childhood. By the time we enter kindergarten, we have learned to bear arms. Children, little boys especially, receive gifts of toy guns, toy tanks, toy rockets and missiles and submarines and warplanes—a toychest of armaments preparing the innocent to kill or to die. Exploiting childhood fears and fascinations, television cartoons continue to reinforce an adversarial view of life, teaching our youth to divide humanity into two opposing camps—the "good guys" versus the "bad guys." In this simplistic scenario, there is no room for the rich complexity of human nature that forms the wellspring of creativity and art. War play is so much a part of our culture that we engage in the toy arms trade unthinkingly, observing, "Isn't he the little man? How skillfully he uses his trigger finger. How well he fights. He'll be a good little soldier when he grows up." But what kind of man does the little boy become? Can he ever truly grow up if his concept of manhood is limited to his capacity to be violent? And what of nations governed by men who have never given up their sandbox toys? We know the consequences all too well. Gripped in the deathlock of military governments, human and natural resources drained to feed the voracious appetite of the military establishment, today's world shows all too painfully the consequences of training in the childhood arsenal. As fourteen million children die each year from preventable diseases, and one billion people go without clean drinking water, as poverty increases and human beings are reduced to scavenging in garbage dumps to survive, we confront the terrible impact of misplaced priorities: Almost

Almost $2 million a minute is spent on arms and armies, while only $8,500 a minute is spent on family planning.

$2 million a minute is spent on arms and armies, while only $8,500 a minute is spent on family planning. And it is not just those in the developing world who suffer. In the United States, about 15 percent of the people lack any health insurance, 3.5 million are homeless and 20 million go hungry several times a month. Yet, according to the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, over the past decade the U.S. has invested almost three trillion dollars in the military, or $45,500 for each U.S. family.

Some years ago the American writer E.L. Doctorow remarked: "Since 1945 all our arts—our literature, our music, our religion, our moral philosophy—have paled beside our creative science of death." At this moment, world leaders have an unprecedented opportunity to get humanity off the death machine and to transform living conditions for the better. At the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), which is now in session in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the leaders of more than 160 nations along with representatives of some 1,200 nongovernmental organizations are deliberating the most serious problems our species has faced in its entire four-million-year evolutionary history: Our sheer population growth threatens to overwhelm Earth's resources, but it is not just numbers that threaten our future. We possess the technology to destroy all life on Earth and we continue to nourish that technology while neglecting human and environmental needs. There is only one meaningful question: Will we band together as a species and use our intelligence to undo the havoc our military madness has wreaked, or will we continue mindlessly playing our dangerous games? The inventive genius that went into designing the *Exocet* and *Scud* missiles can surely be turned to improving the quality of life for humankind. We have the intelligence and the creative capacities to invent instruments of peace as well as weapons of war. We possess the technology to protect all life on Earth. But we must be willing to grow up.



Reprinted from the Calypso Log *June 1992. Used with permission.*

"If pizza is an art
Jo Mamas has the brushes"
"Losing oneself in Olympia"
Sept. 21, 1937. CPJ
Jo Mamas
120 N. PEAR OLYMPIA (206) 943-9849

"Freedom is not worth having if it does not connote the freedom to err."
Mohandas K. Gandhi
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PO Box 105 Olympia, WA 98507 Phone 357-9209
Mary Burbage, President

Artist & Lecture Series Presents

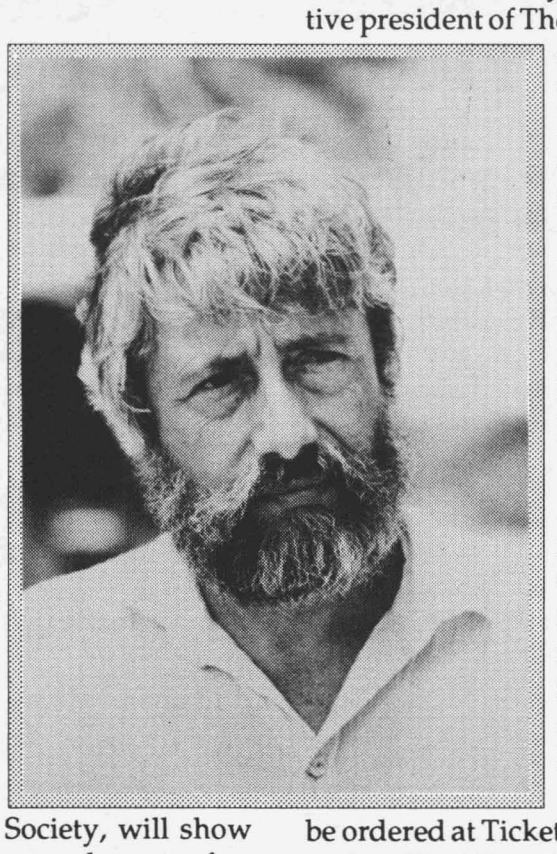
A Message of Environmental Hope by Jean-Michel Cousteau

Steve Salmi

Jean-Michel Cousteau is coming to Olympia to present a message of hope about the world's fragile environment.

Cousteau, son of the legendary ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau, will speak as part of Daring Diversity: South Puget Sound Community College's 1992-93 Artist Lecture Series.

"Rediscovering Our World: An Evening With Jean-Michel Cousteau" will begin 8 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 7 at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts. The event is sponsored by Olympia Federal Savings.



During his presentation, Cousteau, executive vice president of The Cousteau Society, will show film footage from underwater forays through some of the most exotic places on earth.

Cousteau's message is not one of doom and gloom but one of hope. The Cousteau Society has called the 1990s the "Decade of Solutions," where people throughout the world come together to solve seemingly intractable environmental problems.

Cousteau is a founding director of The Cousteau Society and has spent his life exploring the ocean with his father aboard the research vessel Calypso. As executive president of The Cousteau Society, he has produced numerous television series. He is currently working on "Cousteau's Rediscovery of the World," a series of 35 hour-long television specials.

Tickets for Jean-Michel Cousteau are $17, $19 and $21 or $17 and $15 for students and seniors.

Tickets can be ordered at Ticketmaster outlets such as The Wherehouse and Disc Jockey or by calling Ticketmaster at 628-0888. Tickets are also available at the Washington Center Box Office at 753-8586.

Along The Color Line

Bottom Up Democracy

Manning Marable

In the land of "free enterprise" and consumerism, citizens can freely express themselves in every avenue, except politics. We can choose between a dozen different brands of toilet tissue at the supermarket, but we are stuck with two "brand Xs" when we enter the voting booth. Efforts to challenge the system from the outside are difficult to organize. Can we really claim to be a democracy when an entrenched political class is able to re-elect itself from special interest contributions, and when the alternative views of millions of people are suppressed by archaic, oppressive election laws?

Other more progressive challenges to the system are, however ,beginning to surface. In Vermont, for example, a political revolt has been brewing against the two-party establishment for or more than a decade. In 1981, independent socialist Bernie Sanders was elected mayor of Burlington, Vermont's largest city. After four terms as mayor, the popular politician ran for Congress and was only narrowly defeated. But in 1990, Sanders triumphed over the Republican incumbent by 16 percentage points. For the first time in four decades, an independent progressive outside the bipartisan mainstream was sent to Congress, and stands an excellent chance of reelection.

Sanders ' success is demonstrative of other progressive victories in Vermont. Peter Clavelle, another independent progressive, has been elected as Burlington' s mayor. Two other progressive who had been serving on Burlington' s city council were elected to the Vermont House of Representatives in 1990.

This ferment on the left has crystallized into a movement for a new statewide party. Last January, a steering committee was formed which hopes to launch the "Vermont Progressive Party" in 1993. The new party-in-process promises to fight for "universal health care reform, progressive tax reform, public commitment to jobs, women' s rights and environmental issues."

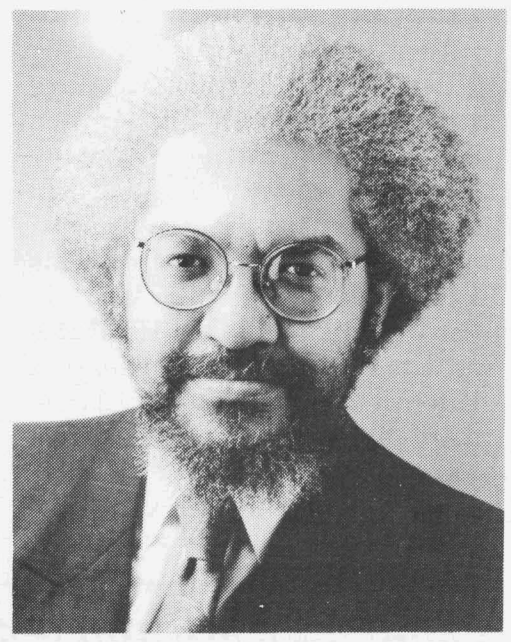
We have to be willing to reform the electoral rules in order to increase our political alternatives. And the best method of increasing our alternatives is through "proportional representation." In this country, we usually have "winner-take-all" elections, in which the person who receives 51 percent of the votes receives the electoral seat. What about the 49 percent of the voters whose views aren't ' being addressed or even heard?

In a proportional representation (PR) election, voters could rank the candidates according to their order of preference (1, 2, 3, etc.) and the top candidates would be elected. Congressional districts could then be consolidated into multi-member districts, which would greatly increase the probability of electing more women and people of color. Politically divisive runoff elections would be avoided under the PR system. And countries which use the PR voting system have much higher voter turnout rates.

We have to be willing to reform the electoral rules in order to increase our political alternatives. And the best method of increasing our alternatives is through "proportional representation."

The chief impact of adopting proportional representation would be to promote the legitimacy of independents, who would then stand a reasonable chance of challenging theDemocrats and Republicans. The key reason for this redistribution of power is simple arithmetic; the threshold of victory in a three-member district would be much less than one-half of the total vote. Lowering the threshold for election would mean that progressives, the Black and Latino communities would have a much easier time getting their candidates elected to Congress.

PR is sometimes criticized as too time consuming to tally, and too complicated for the average voter to comprehend. But optical scanner equipment, like that used to check prices in supermarkets, could quickly record PR votes. And PR would create a powerful incentive for millions of new voters to turn out for the first time.



The most outstanding African-American example of independent politics is provided by African-American leader Ron Daniels of Ohio. In his "Project New Tomorrow" Daniels has brought together a wide range of Black and progressive formations, dedicated to the goal of constructing "an independent third force in American politics utilizing an independent presidential campaign in '92 as a major catalyst." Daniels is campaigning for President on a progressive platform, to challenge the reactionary politics of Bush-Quayle and the increasingly conservative politics of Clinton-Gore. By traveling across the nation, speaking at hundreds of community centers, churches and schools, Daniels reminds us that politics can be energized, bringing thousands of new voters into the process with a sense of empowerment. Although largely ignored in the national media, Daniels' progressive effort is important for maintaining the social justice perspective which was the heart of Jesse Jackson's presidential campaigns of 1984 and 1988. Ron Daniels and others show us that political action can contribute to the struggle for "bottom up democracy."

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of Political Science and History, University of Colorado, Boulder. "Along the Color Line" appears in over 250 publications, and is broadcast by more than 50 radio stations internationally.

Thurston County Rainbow Coalition

General Membership Meeting

October 10

12:30 pm

First Christian Church, Seventh & Franklin, Olympia

I AGREE WITH THE THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

A grassroots organization that works for the people the two political parties frequently ignore: peace activists, people of color, the differently-abled, union members, women, environmentalists, gays and lesbians, the homeless, the working poor, and other community people.

An organization that supports and encourages progressive electoral candidates. An organization that networks and works with others who have the same goals.

Join the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition and get involved.

Yes, I'm interested in joining the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition

❑ Enclosed is: $25; $10 low-income.

❑ Yes, I want to be involved in Rainbow activities. Give me a call.

(name) _____

(address) _____

(city) (state) (zip)

_____ _____ _____

(work phone) (home phone)

_____ _____

(issues of interest):

Send to: Thurston County Rainbow Coalition, P.O. Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507. For information call 459-3625 or 456-4773.

The Olympia Films Society *presents*

3 Film Festivals to experience:

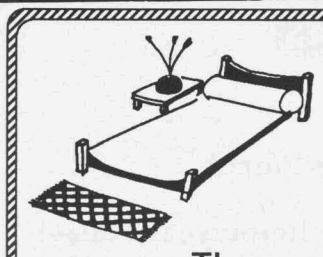
1. **German Film Festival**
September 25– 30, 1992

2. ***Women Make Movies***
20th Anniversary Film Tour
September 27– Oct. 7, 1992

3. **9th Annual Olympia Film Festival**
November 13-22, 1992

Capitol Theater 206 East 5th Ave 206/754-6670

(206) 357-8464



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Future Voters of America

A non-profit, non-partisan voter education program

Liberty without learning is always in peril and learning without liberty is always in vain. John F. Kennedy

The 1990 election had the lowest voter turnout in 42 years. Is this the legacy we want to leave our children? Future Voters of America is a nonprofit, non-partisan voter education program being designed in Pierce County to improve those statistics. This program will educate students as to the rights and responsibilities of voting and stimulate the critical thinking skills necessary for making informed judgments as voters. After learning about voting in a classroom setting, the students will "vote" in a mock election of their own. Future Voters of America will revitalize parent participation and instill lifelong voting habits in school age children.

Future Voters of America will revitalize parent participation and instill lifelong voting habits in school age children.

The Puyallup School District, the Pierce County Auditor's office, the League of Women Voters, Secretary of State Ralph Munro's office, and many local community leaders are working together to create a model of Future Voters of America for the kids in the Puyallup schools. The model curriculum will include students in grades 4-9 with plans to expand and refine it over the next few years so that eventually all of the kids in the Puyallup District, and in Districts throughout Washington state, may be able to participate intelligently in their own democracy. Today's young people are tomorrow's leaders.

The FVA program educates in a "learn by doing" format: Students are encouraged to "register to vote" at their own schools prior to regular elections. Classroom instruction will include a minimum of 45 minutes per week for four weeks prior to the November 3rd election. On election day students will "vote" in their own mock election with special ballots developed by the Pierce County Audilor's office. The votes will be tallieafter the (school) polls close and the results will be announced throughout the District and surrounding community.

This program will be expanded to include students in grades K-12 and offered every two years. Our hope is, that with exposure to the FVA class room experience, along with repeated casting of ballots, students will recognize the value of making our most important freedom a part of their life and continue to exercise that right throughout their adulthood. Nothing is as important to our freedom as the privelage of voting.

Some countries have a voter participation rate as high as 90% while others are fighting to gain and maintain this most basic right. Millions of Americans fail to exercise their right to vole year after year, in ever increasing numbers. Participation by students in the Future Voters of America program will help end voter apathy and re-establish the importance of voting as a vital part of every American's life.

To write or call:
Future Voters of America
P.O. Box 73953
Puyallup, WA 98373
(206) 841-7816

Goals and Objectives

1. Teach school-age children he meaning or democracy and it's corresponding responsibilities

2. To stimulate political awareness among students and their parents

3. To increase the likelihood that today's young people will vole when they become adults

Disturbing Statistics

- **Only 36% of eligible voters voted in 1990 (the lowest turnout in 42 years)**
- **50% of our eligible citizens do no vote in our presidential elections**
- **70% of eligible voters do not Vote in local elections**
- **Voter turnout has decreased by 30% since World War II**
- **Less than 16% of eligible young adults 18-24 voted in 1990**
- **Mayors throughout the US are often elected by a mandate of less than 5%**
- **Fewer than 40% of the 18-21 are currently registered to Vote but more than 80% have drivers licenses. At best, 20% will Vote by age 21, but 89% will drive a car.**

THE LAND IS OUR MOTHER

Once again we are gathered to listen to another non-indian tell us all about the plight of the indigenous peoples of Turtle Island. Their "educated" voices convey a message of urgency, yet i wonder where the indigenous voices are, the ones that should and could be speaking for themselves.

They tell us, the audience coming to hear indian voices, how much to give when to give it, and why we should feel guilty for not giving more. These non-indian voices are always telling me that i need to give more, and support some cause or another so my mind will be less filled with guilt.

My only question to these spokespeople of the oppressed is, why don't you start with the struggle of indigenous peoples that is ever present in your own back yard? How many brothers and sisters on the street were invited to listen to our Menominee sister speak from her heart, no you folks are too wrapped up in fighting for the cause of someone you don't have to see or listen to. After all, suppose one of these brothers or sisters wanted to come home with you, or worse yet, hit you up for a few bucks on their way back to 1st avenue. It is easier to send some goodwill to a land that you may never see, but apparently somewhat difficult to support or talk with someone face to face.

Open your eyes, indigenous peoples are everywhere, or maybe we don't look ethnic enough for you. We have been giving not only money but our very souls, it's hard to turn your back on brothers and sisters hanging out in a city called Seattle, named in honor of a man whose name your ancestors couldn't even pronounce. If you really wanted to support a cause, how about the fact that senator jack metcalf is attempting to become the next governor of this state. His record of cooperation with the indigenous peoples of this area is as appalling as isaac stevens' indian policy was. In fact good old jack would rather forget that indigenous peoples were ever present in his district.

You could all get an early start and be ahead of the rest of the pack toting their rhetoric. Now don't get me wrong, causes are important, i have a few of my own, and hopefully you all will search for a few good ones, but all i really wanted to do was listen to Crystos

G.W. Galbreath

Late Summer Harvest

The late Summer passes
with tall golden grasses,
ripening apples sweetened by sun,

The crickets sing fanfares
in the kettle boil sauce pears
distilling to sugar the water away,

The sweetness of Summer hearts
refined to the rich parts
late Summer love is as rich as it comes.

- Birch Shapiro

Restless Autumn

Autumn stillness fills the air,
Summer clearness remaining here,
Two seasons joined by the air they share,

Quiet restlessness an uneasy heart,
When will Autumn truly start.

-Birch Shapiro

Leroy Lobbyist — By Lee Wlazlak

Leroy hard at work, representing those who can afford it.
Yes, I can lobby for a state sponsored health care system. The meeting is on Tuesday
Leroy goes to work, writing his lobby speech...
without a health care system for all.
Leroy, our hero, our guy...
Sure I can lobby against a state sponsored healthcare system. The meeting is on Thursday
Leroy goes to work writing his lobby speech...
with state sponsored health care our society will decline.
Next Month: Leroy Lobbyist's solution to the spotted owl habitat issue.

Boycott Nestlé and American Home Products

A Call for Corporate Accountability

Zachary D. Lyons

Action for Corporate Accountability (ACA) is continuing its four year old boycott of Nestlé and American Home Products (AHP) in conjunction with the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN). IBFAN is a coalition of over 150 citizen groups in nearly 70 countries working for better infant and child health through the promotion of breastfeeding and the elimination of dangerous marketing of commercial infant foods, bottles and nipples.

The problem, states ACA, is Bottle Baby Disease - severe malnutrition and diarrhea, leading to death or life long handicaps - suffered by infants whose mothers have been persuaded by the aggressive marketing schemes of the infant formula industry to abandon breastfeeding and use artificial milk to feed their babies. "Health experts estimate that from one to three million infants die each year from Bottle Baby Disease. In poor areas, where living conditions are unsanitary, illiteracy high and incomes low, safe preparation of infant formula is nearly impossible. Mixed with bacteria-laden water and over-diluted to make it last longer, the expensive artificial milk becomes a daily dose of disease and malnutrition. The worst offenders are the industry leaders: Swiss-based Nestlé and the U.S.-based American Home Products," an ACA report concludes.

"During the negotiations ending the first Nestlé Boycott in 1984, Nestlé agreed to end free supplies regardless of the actions of other parties. Some specific implementation steps were outlined, but never followed by the company, thus leading to the second international boycott in 1988," ACA asserts. "Now Nestlé and American Home Products... have stated that their 'goal' is to end free supplies, but they have said they will not act unilaterally, making no commitment to end free supplies as called for by the World Health Assembly."

The World Health Assembly in 1981 adopted a code of marketing practices that found many such practices, including the use of free or low cost supplies, were harmful to infant health. WHO adopted a policy that defines mother's milk as the best source of nourishment for infants, and a 1990 conference sponsored by WHO and other agencies concluded — after examining current studies — that exclusive breastfeeding will maximize infant health prospects.

"While infant formula companies have abandoned many of the practices criticized by WHO, they have strongly resisted efforts to halt the use of free supplies for hospitals," asserts ACA. "Critics argue that water supplies for mixing formula and other conditions may not be sanitary outside hospitals. These conditions, as well as the tendency of poor households to stretch supplies [by] adding excess water, may lead to diarrhea, gastroenteritis and other diseases."

Patti Rundell, with the International Nestlé Boycott Committee for Europe, said both [Nestlé and AHP] should unilaterally stop all free supplies "as called for by the World Health Organization." According to ACA, "Rundell said a new Nestlé-funded study of hospital practices in Mexico confirms that 'new mothers who entered hospitals intending to breastfeed changed their minds and shifted to bottle feeding by the time they left.'"

"No company has so far agreed to stop free supplies either universally or unilaterally," ACA contends. "All the promises are conditional on the willingness of governments to enact laws or recommendations banning free supplies from all companies. However, article 11.3 of the Code calls on companies to abide by its restrictions - regardless of government action... Having admitted that free supplies contribute to this, why must the companies wait for legislation to force them to stop?"

"Providing supplies of formula to hospital maternity wards is now and has always been one of the most effective promotional devices known to the industry and one of the most dangerous to infants," charges ACA. "The industry knows that any free handout to a consumer dramatically increases the likelihood that the consumer will use the product. And this form of promotion through the health care system takes on a perceived hospital stamp of approval. When the mother begins to use the formula instead of breastfeeding, her own milk begins to dry up and she and her newborn become 'hooked.' Because this marketing technique interferes so dangerously with the initiation of breastfeeding, the World Health Assembly called for an end to the practice."

When the mother begins to use the formula instead of breastfeeding, her own milk begins to dry up and she and her newborn become 'hooked.'

Pilot studies in Thailand and the Ivory Coast, in which Nestlé withdrew free supplies unilaterally, simply confirmed the need for an industry-wide solution.

"In December 1990, Nestlé issued an update on its commitment to efforts aimed at terminating all infant formula donations which may discourage breast-feeding," the report continues. "This policy statement was followed two months later by a similar statement issued by American Home Products/Wyeth (another member company of IFM). In March 1991, the IFM General Assembly, representing over 30 infant formula manufacturers, agreed on an IFM commitment with regard to 'Donations of Infant Formula to Hospitals and other Institutions in Developing Countries.' This commitment was sent to the Director General of WHO and the Executive Director of UNICEF, whose support was requested in facilitating a dialogue with health authorities to resolve the issue of infant formula procurement by hospitals. The IFM initiative was backed by separate meetings between the Chief Executives of Nestlé and American Home Products and top WHO and UNICEF officials."

"In the last year, American Home Products/Wyeth and the other members of the International Association of Infant Food Manufacturers ("IFM") embarked on a partnership with WHO, UNICEF and other international agencies," writes Carol Emerling of American Home Products (AHP). "This new initiative was designated the 'Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative' (BFHI) by UNICEF and WHO and is being led by those two highly respected international agencies. It is designed to promote breastfeeding by implementing the WHO/UNICEF Ten Steps to Successful Breast-feeding and the recommendations of various international meetings held during the past two years.

"Recent reports from WHO and UNICEF have addressed our participation in this Initiative," Emerling notes. "The UNICEF Executive Directive of September 1991, which explains the implementation of the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative, states, 'We are particularly anxious that all countries move forward as rapidly as possible in achieving appropriate governmental action - e.g., legislation, regulation, formal ministerial level request - to end free/low cost donations of infant formula to hospitals and maternity services. While some companies may be willing to end this practice voluntarily, experience suggests that governmental action is required in most countries to insure that all companies desist, and that there is no resumption of the practice at a later time.'

Emerling quotes "from a March 1992 UNICEF Executive Directive to its field staff, 'If the result of the BFHI Hospital Self-Appraisal is that no free or low-cost supplies of formula are being distributed, then measures should be considered to ensure that the practice of distributing free and low-cost supplies is not started in the future. At the national level, these measures could include issuance of a government directive to hospitals, or through the enaction of legislation of the International Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.'

"Many sectors of society can play a role in bringing about the cessation of free and low-cost formula supplies. In almost all cases, government action is needed to inform industry and all concerned that distribution of free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes should cease by a given date (suggested no later than 31 December 1992)."

"On the question of donations to mission hospitals and orphanages," says Emerling, "we respect the government's guidelines regarding products to be used for charity cases. In countries where the government requests product donations, we frequently provide pharmaceutical and nutritional products to independent third-party charitable organizations that are responsible for the distribution of the goods. Wyeth adopted the WHO Code in its entirety in developing countries in 1983 and we comply with national codes or regulations wherever they exist."

"The companies say," responds Idrian Resnick, Executive Director of Action for Corporate Accountability, "if they don't make donations to mission hospitals and orphanages and pediatric wards, these will have to buy formula at great cost. Our answer is to make donations with *generic labels* through WHO/UNICEF or the Ministry of Health; i.e. give charity without getting credit. [The companies say], they cannot be responsible for or control the actions of their sales people or distributors, who, they say, are the ones who place advertisements and posters and commit other violations of the Code. Our answer is, we do not believe that global corporations cannot control these agents; they should try harder."

"Companies that endorse the *International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes*, as Nestlé claims it does, must abide by it, regardless of what other companies do," says Resnick. "Their argument would not be tolerated if applied to divestment from South Africa, for example. The unethical behavior of others is not an acceptable justification for one's own transgressions."

"The aim of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative launched by UNICEF and WHO is to encourage hospitals and health facilities to implement the *Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding* developed by UNICEF and WHO in 1989, as part of the long-term goal to protect, promote and support breastfeeding," reiterates Janet Nelson, Chief of the NGO Liaison Section for UNICEF. "The goal adopted by the World Summit for Children is to enable *all* women to practice exclusive breastfeeding and all infants to be fed exclusively on breastmilk from birth to 4-6 months of age, and to continue breastfeeding with adequate complementary foods for two years or beyond.

"In many maternity facilities and hospitals, it has become routine practice to separate mother and child at birth, and provide the child with one or more feedings of formula or other breastmilk substitutes," UNICEF's Nelson reports. "In order to maintain these practices, many hospitals have become dependent on formula provided free or at low cost.

"To correct this problem, the UNICEF Executive Board adopted a resolution in April 1991 calling upon manufacturers and distributors to end the distribution of free and low-cost of infant formula in all countries by December 1992. The International Association of Infant Food Manufacturers (IFM) initially agreed to work towards this goal in developing countries only, as long as government policies would be enacted in order that the restriction apply to all manufacturers and distributors. This commitment has now been extended to include the former USSR countries, as well as the countries of Eastern and

An Open Letter to Native Americans

To Whom Does The Land-rent Belong?

Marvin Saillard

Land is a gift from the Great Spirit to his people who cannot live without access to land, and who cannot produce anything from or on the land without contributing labor. Anyone who wishes to produce more efficiently must use tools (capital).

As soon as one person's use of the land interferes with another person's need for land, the one with exclusive rights to use that piece of land has an advantage over all the other people who have an equal right to use that location. In an exchange economy the market-determined rental-value (use-value) of a location becomes an accurate measure of the value of the special privilege of exclusive use of that location.

Whenever any group of people live in a community, they have a need for a community organization to insure harmonious living conditions, and to provide needed community services and infrastructure such as a water system, a sewer system, a street system, roads, schools, police, fire protection, community officials, and public service workers. The natural way to finance community government without interfering with the normal functions of life and business is to collect the community-created rental-value of land as public revenue.

If the community member, who is entitled to exclusive use of a location, is allowed to sell the land to anyone, he receives an unearned profit from the selling price which rightfully belongs to everyone in the community. Even those, who do not sell the land which they have an exclusive right to use without paying any land-rent, are receiving an unearned benefit that gives them an advantage over all of the other community members who have an equal right to use the land. This principle becomes more obvious when tribal land is sold to an outsider at an unearned profit which should be shared equally with all the members of the tribe.

The community-created rental-value of land belongs to everyone who belongs to the community. Anything produced by labor and capital (tools) is a privately-created value

The community-created rental-value of land belongs to everyone who belongs to the community. Anything produced by labor and capital (tools) is a privately-created value which should be rewarded to the producers by way of wages and interest coming from trading the products in the marketplace.

The greatest heritage the Native Americans have is the belief that the land belongs to everyone. The U.S. Government only talks about such a thing when they are trying to send poor landless people off to war to defend wealthy landowners. Native Americans do not understand how their belief can help them live on the land in non-traditional ways.

They are further confused by the U.S. Government economy that cannot provide full employment for its people. This happens because land is treated as though it were private man-made capital instead of common property whose land-rent should be shared by everyone, including Native Americans.

If the United States, or any of the States individually, were to untax labor and capital, and collect the rental-value of land as public revenue, everyone would be encouraged to work and to make the highest and best use of their land according to its location. The best use of land creates the greatest demand for labor and capital, and provides the greatest number of jobs in the economy.

Landowners would no longer have the unfair advantage of receiving unearned income or unearned profit from renting or selling their land. Elimination of special privilege in land ownership would put an end to under-privilege for people who cannot gain access to land for jobs or homes.

If we had full employment because we collected the rental-value of land as public revenue, Native Americans could use the same idea on their Reservations. This would encourage them to make better use of their land, and they could become self-supporting. It would also make it easier for them to assimilate into our economy because there would be plenty of jobs for everyone.

Yours for sharing your land-rent from your land with your people,

Marvin Saillard is a member of the Washington State Georgist Association.
Hamlet Hilpert, President
95 State Hwy 507
Centralia, WA 98531
06-736-3639
We are a chapter of Common Ground - USA.
Steven B. Cord, Administrator
2000 Century Plaza, #238
Columbia, MD 21044
410-740-1177

(Boycott, continued)

Central Europe. At the international level, UNICEF and WHO have therefore met on two occasions with the IFM Executive Committee to define the process by which IFM member companies could implement the above commitment.

"The IFM is thus not involved in the overall Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative," stresses UNICEF's Nelson, "but is working with UNICEF and WHO only on the goal of ending the distribution of free and low-cost supplies of infant formula in the countries specified above.

"UNICEF continues to ask the manufacturers and distributors to voluntarily cease the distribution of free and low-cost supplies to health care facilities, because of the detrimental effect of this practice on breastfeeding," Nelson reiterates. "I hope this statement will be useful in clarifying for your readership the role of the IFM in the BFHI."

"We try to focus boycotters' attention on two Nestlé/Carnation products (in addition to those that bear the Nestlé name, such as Nestlé and Carnation Hot Chocolate and Nestlé Crunch): Taster's Choice instant coffee, and Coffee Mate non-dairy creamer. We focus on American Home Products' Anacin aspirin and Advil ibuprofen," ACA's Resnick clarifies. "We don't boycott formula. We urge women to breastfeed but if they don't, we are careful not to make them feel they are doing something wrong. They are most likely victims of a health-care system that didn't given them enough/correct information about the consequences of bottle feeding and the benefits of breastfeeding, and the corporate promotion of bottle feeding."

For more information, or to express your concerns, you may contact ACA, UNICEF, Nestlé and/or AHP as follows:

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129 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510
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Janet Nelson
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United Nations Children's Fund

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Mr. Tim Crull
President and CEO
Nestlé USA
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Glendale, CA 91203

Mr. John R. Stafford
Chairman and CEO
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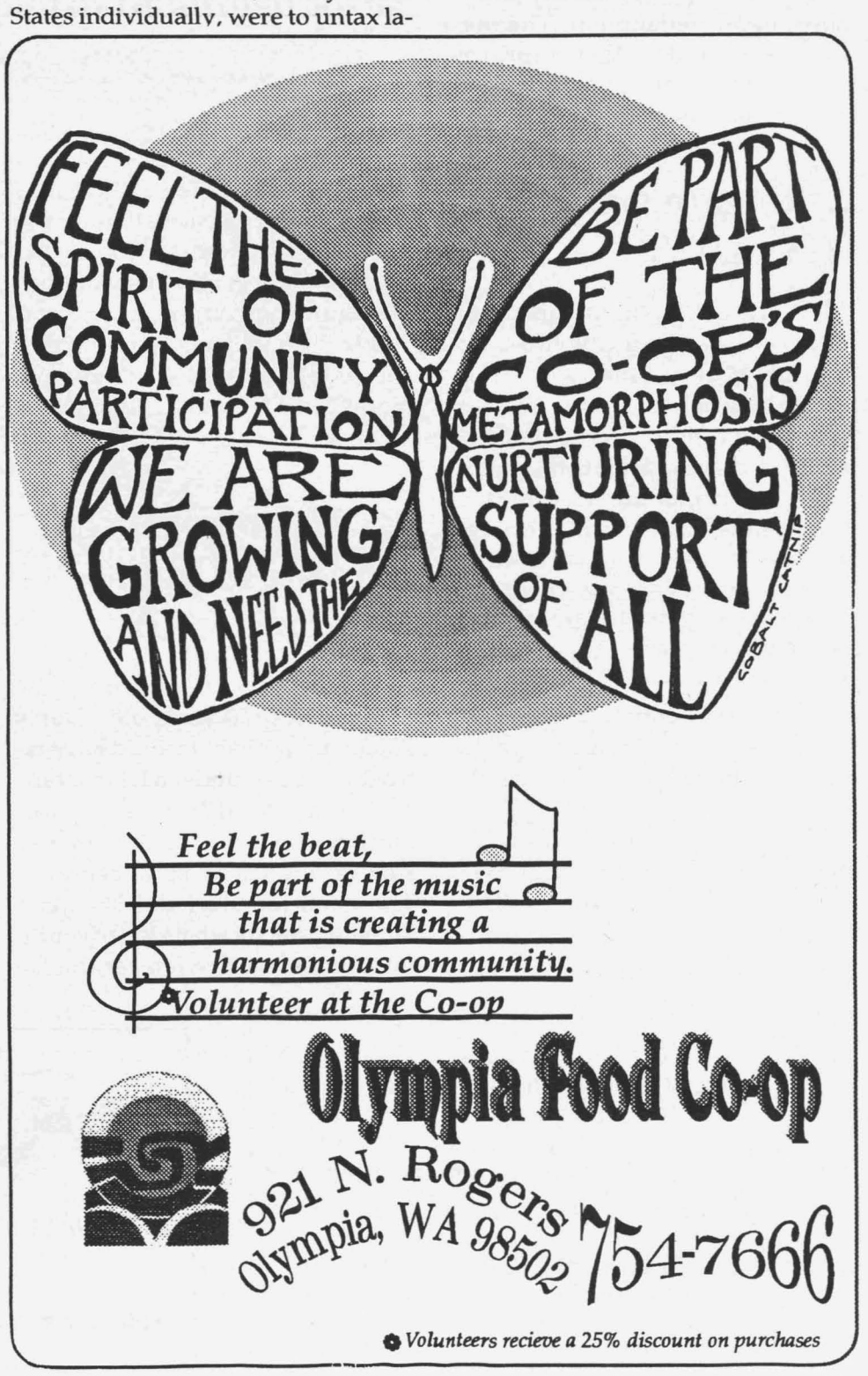
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COBALT GRAPHICS

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Six Good Reasons to Vote for Bill Clinton

Hint: "Because I sincerely believe that he will singlehandedly bring the Glory Day" is *not* one of them

Carol Poole

1. Because the Endangered Species Act is endangered

The Bush administration is openly planning and working to dismantle the legislation that currently protects the Northern spotted owl, along with thousands of acres of its Northwest old-growth habitat, from the damages of further logging. While Bill Clinton, with his "you can be pro-growth and pro-environment" optimism, has yet to specify precisely how he means to negotiate the Northwest's crisis, his suggestion for summit meetings of affected parties is a distinct, easily discernible improvement over four more years of Bush and Manuel Lujan.

2. To gain funds for HIV/AIDS

Never mind, for the moment, that Bush has shown greater willingness to criminalize people with AIDS than to help fight the virus. Clinton is clearly out and ahead in his promises to increase federal funding for AIDS/HIV (including enlarging the Ryan White Act, which currently pays for certain direct services to PWA's, to fund education and prevention as well). Clinton's policy on AIDS, as well as on abortion rights and gay rights, got him the first-ever presidential endorsement from the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national gay/lesbian rights organization.

Clinton also promises more credible reforms in health care and medical insurance, and in other welfare programs.

3. The "Wonk" Factor

("wonk" = "someone who studies hard; a grind")

Clinton appears to have an energetic, talented staff working for him, and what they are working on appears to be public policy. As the syndicated cartoon "Washingtoon" (whence the word "wonk") points out, both Clinton and Gore seem to have endless supplies of 8-point plans and 16-point responses. After twelve years of puppets scripted by starry-eyed plagiarists, I admit I don't quite know what to make of candidates who take intelligent questions and respond with 18-point multisyllabic answers, *without cue cards*. But I think it's a good thing.

Queer-bashing is the latest Republican effort to find, at any cost, the "hot button" that will unleash the pent-up voting power of Middle America and channel it their way.

4. To preserve abortion rights

This issue is no less critical now than it's ever been. Clinton supports the Freedom of Choice Act that will protect all of us from further Supreme Court raids on *Roe v. Wade*. Bush will not only veto pro-choice legislation; he will appoint more Clarence Thomases and David Souters. Need I say more?

5. To control recent damage to the Supreme Court

Three U.S. Supreme Court Justices are over 70 years old. Harry Blackmun probably would have retired years ago under a Democratic administration. If Bush is re-elected, Blackmun will be forced either to stay on the Court or to retire, as Thurgood Marshall did last year, knowing exactly what kind of youthful, planning-to-live-forever, thinks-he's-god right-wing ideologue will be chosen to replace him.

6. To keep your friends guessing about your sexuality

In other words, the only people who can't tell the differnence between Bush and Clinton's platforms must be, not only heterosexual, but more than a little out of touch with the rest of us. Queer-bashing is the latest Republican effort to find, at any cost, the "hot button" that will unleash the pent-up voting power of Middle America and channel it their way. "Family values" is the polite codeword, although, as the *Village Voice* reports, at the Republican Convention in Houston the queer-baiting and -bashing was painfully overt. Reporter Donna Minkowitz kept count: "Number of incidents of antigay violence at the convention: six. Number of antigay speeches: six."

"'If Bush wins in November, having campaigned by bashing gays and lesbians, the escalation in violence and discrimination against us will be unthinkable,'" says the *Voice*. I can't comfortably say it's not so. Let's keep this discussion hypothetical by electing Clinton.

7. To stop the Bush "War on _____"

(put your name here)

I find the *Voice* scenario entirely believable, considering the chilling audacity and the devastating effects of the Bush administration's similarly coded war on African-Americans and other Americans of color during the past four years. Bush has demonstrated, time and again, a reliance on vicious stereotyping to dredge up his political support: he is continually re-defining vulnerable groups as the Enemy.

To emphasize that there is a difference between the two parties' discourse this year, a difference that has real symbolic and significance, let me repeat a Clinton soundbite.

> "For too long, politicians have told us that what's really wrong with America is the rest of us. Them. Them, the minorities. Them, the liberals. Them, the homeless. Them, the gays. But this is America. There is no them; there's only us." - BC

Without knowing anything else about Clinton's record, I would feel better if a majority of voters preferred his kind of statement to Bush's. I don't know whether Clinton will back up his promises, but I do know that, when it comes to racism and homophobia, Bush will indeed deliver.

Katy Murray MSW, CCDCIII

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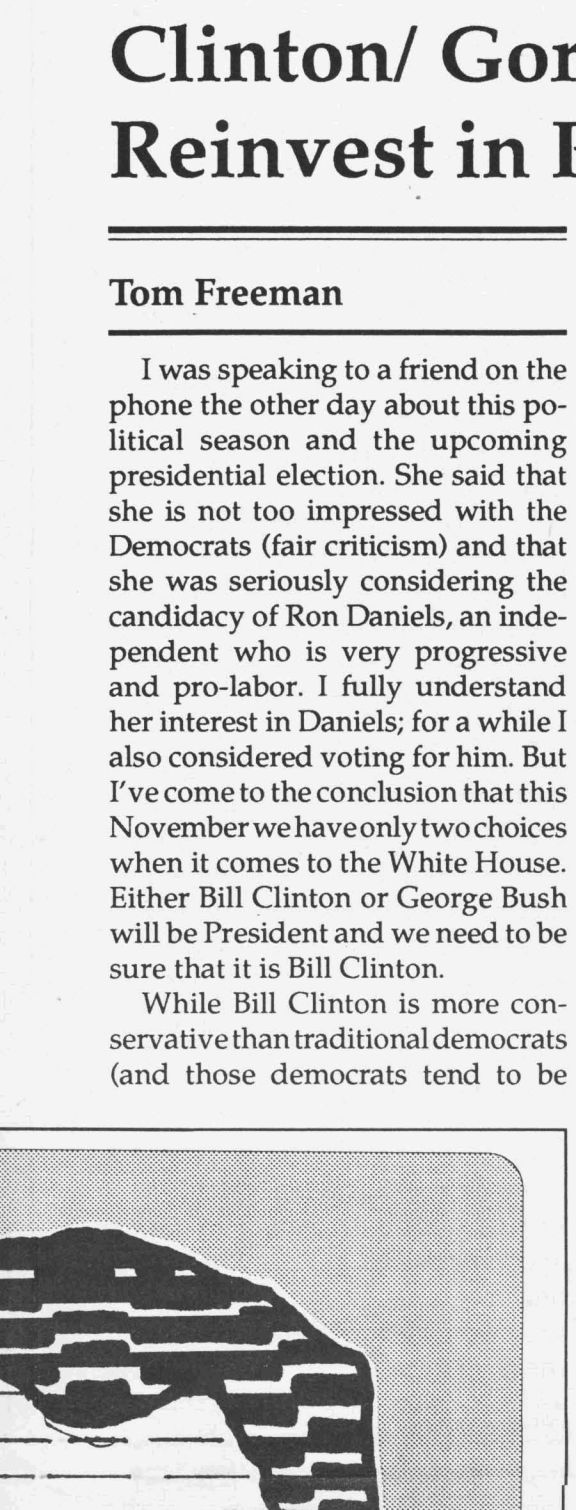
Clinton/ Gore Crucial Opportunity to Reinvest in People and Civil Rights

Tom Freeman

I was speaking to a friend on the phone the other day about this political season and the upcoming presidential election. She said that she is not too impressed with the Democrats (fair criticism) and that she was seriously considering the candidacy of Ron Daniels, an independent who is very progressive and pro-labor. I fully understand her interest in Daniels; for a while I also considered voting for him. But I've come to the conclusion that this November we have only two choices when it comes to the White House. Either Bill Clinton or George Bush will be President and we need to be sure that it is Bill Clinton.

While Bill Clinton is more conservative than traditional democrats (and those democrats tend to be more conservative than me), it is time for us to accept the reality that we are to the left of the majority of Americans. Does this mean that we abandon our vision, our hope, our activism? No way. I believe that activists must maintain vigilance and organization against those forces which oppress us and others. Bill Clinton does speak about 100,000 more police officers on the streets. Many of us know that those officers are often not our friends. It is a position I do not like nor support. But there are fundamental reasons to end the 12-year Republican gridlock on the White House and get our country moving again. I hope you will consider the following:



Our Economy:

Like others within the Democratic party, Bill Clinton believes in an activist government working to stimulate jobs and economic growth. In the past 12 years of Reagan, Bush, Quayle, there has been the largest redistribution of wealth in our country's history. That wealth has been redistributed from the lower and middle classes into the upper echelon of the income strata. Tax breaks for the wealthy have concentrated dollars at the top which contributes to our recession. The wealthy have so much money that they can't spend it fast enough. So they hoard and hold and the rest of us suffer. Clinton promises public investment in road construction, education re-training for displaced workers, deficit reduction. And most importantly, making sure that those who gained so unfairly in the 80's pay their fair share in the 90's. Furthermore, Clinton vows to deal with unemployment and another growing problem in America - those who are employed but not making it, what we call America's working poor. The Republicans are quick to tell people to "Just Say No." Clinton's vision includes programs which will give the urban poor something to say Yes to.

Family Values:

Bill Clinton and most Americans saw through the divisive rhetoric of the Republicans and their mean-spirited war on "cultural values" espoused at their convention. Clinton's family values consists of adequate wages for working families, job availability, relief for education costs, parental leave and keeping the government out of the private lives of individuals and families. I believe that Clinton understands that the Cleavers do not exist any more - that, in fact, they were mostly a myth even in the 50's - and that families include domestic partnerships and single parents.

Health Care Reform:

Health Care is a right, not a privilege. Bill Clinton promises to make health care reform a top priority of his first hundred days in office. He doesn't have all the answers, but clearly something needs to be done to confront soaring health costs and help those who are not covered.

Gays and Lesbians in the Military:

The General Accounting Office of the U.S. Congress says that the military's witch-hunt to purge Gays and Lesbians from armed service is costing our country millions of dollars per year. Clinton has promised to do away with the ban on Gays and Lesbians in the military, which is, of course, an issue of fairness and dignity. (Personally I would favor the right for all Americans to serve *and* the right for all Americans *not* to serve.

The Supreme Court and the Freedom of Choice Act:

With the Reagan/Bush stacking of the Supreme Court (not to mention other federal judicial appointments) with anti-choice justices, the future of Roe vs. Wade is bleak. The Supreme Court needs just one more conservative appointee to totally overturn a woman's right to choose. But it doesn't stop there. The Supreme Court has limited civil rights in police searches, deemed no constitutional protection for "homosexual sodomy," and gave its judicial thumbs-up to kidnapping leaders of other countries that the U.S. deems hostile. Justice Harry Blackmun, who wrote Roe v. Wade warned that he is an old man and cannot be on the court forever. We would do well to heed his warning and support Bill Clinton, a candidate who will appoint pro-choice justices and who will sign the Freedom of Choice Act which Bush intends to veto.

Education:

Clinton promises to make higher education available for middle-class families shut out by high tuition costs. His loan program offers alternatives to paying back large dollar amounts through the national service approach. While this program excludes the wealthy from serving, I think it's a positive step to offer students an opportunity to work in social agencies for two years as an alternative to paying their loans. There are thousands of agencies that struggle to get by that would benefit from this program.

Agency Heads:

Mike Lowry told me in 1988 (regarding Dukakis), that it wasn't Dukakis that really mattered in the election, but who Dukakis appointed to the Courts, as Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Transportation, etc. This is doubly true for Clinton. How about a Secretary of Labor who is pro-labor? What a concept! How about Federal judges who believe in constitutional liberties? How about a National Labor Relations Board that isn't stacked on the side of business in labor disputes? How about a leader of the Centers for Disease Control who doesn't blame those who contract AIDS for the existence of that hideous disease? How about a Consumer Protection Agency truly interested in its mandate? How about a president that will implement the recommendations of his own Presidential Commission on AIDS? How about a Federal Communications Commission (5 commissioners - three of one party, two of the other) which is no longer controlled by conservatives trying to outlaw what it considers "indecent" material from the airwaves? How about a president that supports the mandate of last year's world environmental summit and will work to implement them?

Either Bill Clinton or George Bush will be president and we need to be sure that it is Bill Clinton.

As a member of Democratic Socialists of America, I am aware that the organization has endorsed Bill Clinton and is working for his election. With President Clinton, we will have an opportunity to advance our domestic agenda and work to make our country care for its people once again. I ask that you consider voting for Bill Clinton and Al Gore, along with Mike Lowry and Patty Murray on Tuesday, November 3rd.

Tom Freeman is a member of Democratic Socialists of America, and the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. He is a graduate student in public administration at TESC. This is his first WIP article since March.

Let's send Sandra to the State Legislature to work with us!

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Sandra's record on environmental issues has earned her the endorsement of the Washington State Environmental Pac

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Civil Rights Eroding in Oregon

Joli Sandoz

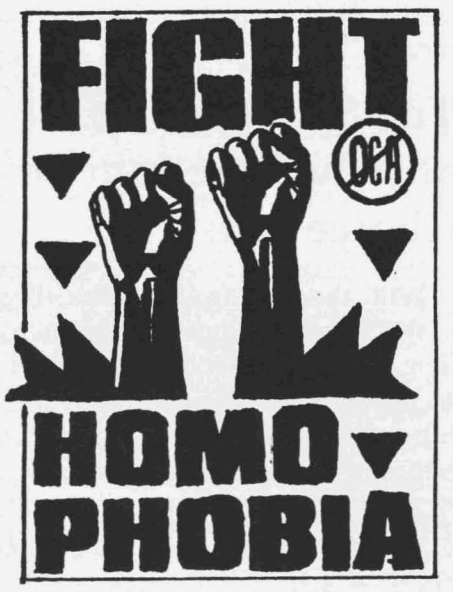
"We believe that the rights of all people must be protected and guaranteed. We believe that the gay and lesbian community must be supported in their civil rights as well as their right for their own sexual preference." Coretta Scott King

On November 3, Oregon voters will decide: "Shall the constitution be amended to require that all governments discourage homosexuality, other listed 'behaviors,' and not facilitate or recognize them?"

If enough voters say yes to Ballot Measure 9, Oregon will become the first state in U.S. history to alter its constitution to mandate discrimination against a specific group of citizens. Homosexuality will be officially labeled "unnatural" and classed with the "behaviors" of pedophilia, sadism, and masochism. A section of the state's hate crime law will be invalidated, and lesbians and gay teachers and other local, county or state employees who work closely with children and also "promote, encourage, or facilitate" homosexuality may be fired.

The Oregon voter's pamphlet also explains that public funds and government property - including streets, libraries, parks, schools - could not be used for meetings, diversity trainings, rallies, or parades which might be construed as supporting homosexuality. And the State Department of Higher Education and public schools, according to the proposed amendment, must "assist in setting a standard for Oregon's youth" recognizing homosexuality, et al, as "abnormal, wrong, unnatural, and perverse . . ."

ality in a positive or neutral light. Medical studies and college textbooks that indicate homosexuality is genetic might have to be rewritten; public television would be censored. No one knows how far all this could carry." Briskin is a spokesperson for No on 9: Campaign for a Hate-Free Oregon, a state-wide organization opposing the ballot measure.



When asked if Measure 9 will pass, Oregon pollster and political commentator Tim Hibbitts said, "I don't think it's likely. But it has a chance." Hibbitts cited the fact that in 1988 the current proponents of 9 mustered enough support statewide to repeal a governor's Executive Order forbidding discrimination against lesbians and gay men. Votes on the 1988 repeal initiative tallied 626,751 for the repeal and 561,355 against.

On May 3 of this year, voters in the Oregon cities of Springfield and Corvallis faced ballot questions similar to Measure 9. In Corvallis, a local initiative failed by a two to one margin. But Springfield, located just outside of Eugene and the state's second-largest industrial center, became the first municipality in the U.S. to amend its charter to ban civil rights protections for gay men and lesbians when 56% of the voters approved the measure. A local effort to repeal the amendment fell short in August when activists failed to obtain enough signatures for inclusion on the next ballot.

Opponents of statewide Measure 9 point to Riverside, California, where the California Fourth District Court of Appeals recently found a similar proposed initiative unconstitutional. The court understood the California measure as an attempt to foster discrimination, noting in its decision "All that is lacking is a sack of stones for throwing."

Oregon activists say that whether or not Oregon's Measure 9 is unconstitutional - and regardless of the eventual outcome - the effort to deny civil rights to affectional minorities has already taken a toll. Gay men and lesbians around Oregon reported house and car windows smashed during the summer, and three break-ins - to an HIV day center run by a mainstream church group, the No on 9 headquarters, and the building housing *Just Out*, Portland's gay newspaper - took place during June. "I see the rise in hate crimes as very directly related to the climate fostered by the measure's supporters," said Briskin. "The burglary at No on 9 [which was formed specifically to oppose efforts to pass the statewide anti-gay legislation] is undisputed proof that this is a result of the ballot measure."

In Springfield, according to assistant city manager Gino Grimaldi, it's business as usual. "We never did any of those things [promoting, facilitating or encouraging homosexuality, et al] and we don't now," he said. But the insurance company providing Springfield liability coverage above $1 million canceled the city's policy when it came up for routine renewal July 1, leaving taxpayers to shoulder potential costs of discrimination suits. Activists charge that Springfield amendment supporters are deliberately refusing to demand enforcement of the new law, thereby avoiding negative publicity before the statewide vote on Measure 9.

According to Jim Bocci of the Portland/Oregon Visitors Association, out-of-state business and professional groups are already planning to boycott Oregon. The National Middle School Association and the Association for Computing Machinery - together expected to bring 6,200 delegates and $3.3 million to the financially-troubled state - have said they will cancel conventions planned for Portland in '93 and '94 if Measure 9 passes. Two other national groups interested in using the Rose City's new $93 million glass-towered convention center in '96 will be forced to take their expected $5.2 million elsewhere. Their parent organization, the American Library Association, will not permit them to conduct business in communities marred by censorship.

Ballot Measure 9 is sponsored by the Oregon Citizen's Alliance, a statewide ultra-conservative group active in Oregon politics since 1987. In 1988, the group spearheaded a successful campaign to overturn then-governor Neil Goldschmidt's executive order banning anti-gay discrimination in state agencies.

The OCA has since become a power-broker in Oregon state politics. In 1990, OCA-backed candidate Al Mobley, running as an independent, pulled 13% of the vote in the race for governor, a feat some say gave Democrat Barbara Roberts the seat over moderate Republican Dave Frohnmayer. This year when Mobley announced his interest in entering the U.S. Senate race in which Republican Senator Bob Packwood is closely matched by Democrat Les AuCoin, Mobley and other OCA representatives flew to Washington D.C. to meet with conservative Republican party leaders including Washington Senator Slade Gorton. Mobley ultimately chose not to enter the race.

Past OCA stands have included opposition to abortion, parental leave as anti-business, state divestment from South Africa as racist, and proposed state pre-kindergarten programs on the grounds that they were anti-family, according to the Coalition for Human Dignity, an Oregon group monitoring right-wing activity. CHD researchers said in the most recent issue of their newspaper, *The Oregon Witness*, that the OCA organized the Homefront Coalition to rally support for the Persian Gulf war, and that an OCA staff attorney has formed an Oregon chapter of the Rutherford Institute, an influential nationwide legal organization which speaks strongly against National Endowment for the Arts funding for feminist and gay artists and works to lessen the separation between church and state.

The OCA's only direct electoral success to date has come at the expense of gay men and lesbians. Both the OCA and their opponents say that the Springfield charter amendment and statewide Measure 9 are part of a larger, nationwide movement to pass similar legislation. OCA director Lon Mabon predicted earlier this month that within two years 37-45 states will pass anti-gay and lesbian legislation similar to Measure 9. "He's absolutely right," according to Martin Hiraga, civil rights organizer for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, a civil rights advocacy organization based in Washington D.C. "Unless people who are fair-minded fight the attempt to make gays the Willie Hortons, the Jews, the Japanese of the '90s, things will get worse.

"We believe Colorado and Oregon are the guinea-pig states. In Cincinnati right now there is a petition effort copying Oregon even to using the same language; in Columbia, Missouri an effort copying the Colorado campaign [which seeks to amend that state's constitution to prohibit sexual orientation

OCA director Lon Mabon predicted earlier this month that within two years 37-45 states will pass anti-gay and lesbian legislation similar to Measure 9.

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clauses in anti-discrimination laws.] Groups in Maine are gearing up to have people with petitions at the polls to put an [anti-gay] initiative on the ballot in '93."

Hiraga said his group believes it can draw at least ideological connections between a number of right-wing conservative groups and the various anti-gay efforts. In Oregon, "it's no coincidence", according to Hiraga, that the Traditional Values Coalition set up an office in Oregon within weeks of the introduction of the OCA initiative - and that national head Lou Sheldon dedicated the group's Portland headquarters the same afternoon that 8,000 people marched in the city's gay, lesbian and bisexual pride parade. Board members of Colorado for Family Values, a group backing a statewide anti-gay and lesbian measure there, also belong to such conservative organizations as the Colorado Eagle Forum, the Colorado Traditional Values Coalition, and Focus on Family.

The Oregonian has reported connections between the OCA and the Christian Coalition, headed by televangelist Pat Robertson. Ralph Reed, Christian Coalition director, told *The Oregonian* that his group has donated $20,000 to support OCA efforts in Oregon. Reed did not return WIP's phone calls.

Arrayed against the OCA and its supporters are a number of grassroots activist organizations, coalitions of Christian and Jewish congregations, local and national lesbian and gay groups, professional organizations, and politicians. Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts, speaking before the Eugene Rotary Club, said last month that Measure 9 "is about hatred, about ugliness, about discrimination and about bigotry."

The full board of directors of Ecumenical Ministries, an affiliation of 17 mainstream Christian denominations made up of over 2,000 Oregon congregations, agrees. According to associate director Ellen Lowe, the board unanimously passed an initiative last September opposing the OCA and addressing civil and human rights. "The board recognized very early that this is not a gay and lesbian issue, but a human rights issue. This [Measure 9] is just a beginning on the part of the OCA. What they are doing is starting an erosion of the Bill of Rights."

Lowe, a No on 9 board member who describes herself as a "heterosexual grandmother, still married to my college sweetheart," says that, if passed, the proposed amendment would not allow her to teach in the public schools, because she has a long record of opposing discrimination against lesbian and gay people. She also attributes a difference in the state's social climate to the initiative.

"I've had more hate mail and hate calls - and two threats on my own life - on this than on any issue I've ever worked on. We've seen an increase in crimes of harassment and intimidation - it's almost like it has given license to some people on the fringes to behave in very anti-social ways," she said. "The measure of Christian faith is hospitality. Measure 9 has encouraged hostility."

Hiraga believes that social discord is precisely what the OCA seeks. "What the OCA wants is to raise the stakes just enough so uninformed people will do their work for them," he said. "They want to raise the stakes so it's not OK to get to know gays and lesbians, to find out they're humans. And they won't stop with gay and lesbian people."

" . . .this is not a gay and lesbian issue, but a human rights issue. This [Measure 9] is just a beginning on the part of the OCA. What they are doing is starting an erosion of the Bill of Rights." Lowe

Support for overt discrimination may seem surprising in a state known for rugged individualism and progressive politics. But state affirmative action officer Jeanette Pai points to Oregon's homogeneity - 98.5% of the population is white - as a partial explanation. "I don't think the majority of people in Oregon are malicious or hateful," she said. "Good people, because they haven't had a chance to deal with difference before, just don't recognize in themselves actions that have to do with bigotry. They act out biases or negative stereotypes before they even realize it. Then Measure 9 reinforces their initial response."

Nevertheless, support for the OCA and its views may be growing in Oregon. In 1991, the OCA claimed just 3,000 dues-paying members and a mailing list of 160,000 (roughly the number of voters who backed OCA candidate Mobley in the 1990 governor's race) from a state population of over 2.5 million. But financial reports filed with the Secretary of State reveal that in the past year 5,500 people from towns throughout the state have contributed over $335,000 to the OCA's No Special Rights Committee, backers of Measure 9.

Ironically, Oregonians' sense of fairness may have contributed to passage of Springfield's anti-gay amendment. An exit poll conducted of 165 Springfield voters in 12 precincts and published in the May 21 Eugene *Register-Guard* revealed that while 8% of voters wanted to send a message to homosexuals to "stay out of Springfield" and 16% wanted to "protect children", an overwhelming 75% of those who supported the bill did so because they opposed what they understood as special rights for homosexuals, a result - according to No on 9's Briskin - of misunderstandings fostered by the OCA.

The "no special rights" strategy paid off for the OCA in the campaign against Goldschmidt's executive order, and helped supporters - who asked passers-by if they wanted homosexuals to have special rights in Oregon - get enough signatures to get Measure 9 on the ballot. Briskin calls this approach "pulling the wool over the eyes of Oregonians". Robin Kane of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force says that the "special rights" rhetoric is in use around the country.

"It's not a special right to get and keep a job based on merit, to be served in a restaurant, to rent an apartment. This is what we're asking for when we support anti-discrimination laws," Kane said. "Civil rights ordinances are not considered special rights for other groups specifically mentioned - in other words, discrimination based on that characteristic [age, for example] is not acceptable. The right-wing activists who talk about special rights want the special right to discriminate based solely on someone's sexual orientation."

Joli Sandoz writes occasionally for Works in Progress.

Fighting bigotry in our own backyard

WIP News Service

The 1992 Washington state Republican party platform calls homosexuality a "deviant lifestyle" which "should not be granted special privileges and protections". Hate crimes against gay men and lesbians are, says the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, the second largest category of bias crime in the state after those motivated by prejudices about race.

What can a self - and other - respecting activist do?

First, hold on to hope! The reason right-wing attacks are increasing is because the lesbian and gay political movement has matured as a civil rights movement, according to Mary Newcombe, Lambda Legal Defense attorney who played an instrumental role in getting an anti-gay ordinance in Riverside, California declared unconstitutional before it even went before voters. Over 100 municipalities and six states (Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Hawaii, Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont) have laws on the books specifically protecting the civil rights of lesbians and gay men. Legislation is pending in four other states.

A spokesperson for the Privacy Fund, a Seattle-based statewide lobbying group for gay and lesbian rights, offered the following suggestions:

1. Get involved in any civil rights or gay/lesbian organization, as actively as you feel comfortable with, whether it's letter writing or putting stamps on envelopes.

2. Write your congresspeople. Tell them you are concerned about these issues. The Privacy Fund often talks to legislators who say they don't vote on bills affecting gay and lesbian people because they don't have any gay constituents. They don't know they have gay voters in their districts - tell them!

The Privacy Fund often talks to legislators who say they don't vote on bills affecting gay and lesbian people because they don't have any gay constituents.

3. Register to vote, and do it.

4. If you are gay or lesbian, come out to your friends and family. Tell them how their sons and daughters, their families and friends are affected by bigotry. Straight people tend to rally around when they realize that they do know gay people and that these people will be hurt.

5. Build bridges. When you say, "I was gay-bashed last week." You may hear back, "My house was egged, my children were attacked." Relating on that level builds common experience. Hatred is not limited to specific groups - it doesn't see borders like this. Listen to the traditional family values rhetoric - they are not talking just about gay people.

Several Seattle groups have planned actions in Oregon. Call the 24-hour Queerline, 206-720-4686 for information on Queer Nation/Seattle's planned demonstration at OCA headquarters. The Privacy Fund's number is 1-800-488-8261 Many Oregon groups are fighting the OCA. No on 9: The Campaign for A Hate-Free Oregon can be reached at 503-232-4501, P.O. Box 3343, Portland, OR 97208.

Health Freedom...the *Write* Way

Health Freedom Advocates

The F.D.A. is attempting a massive campaign to restrict you from purchasing dietary supplements. The health food industry and your rights to use and obtain nutritional supplements are threatened and in peril. The time has come when reactive measures are not enough. We must be proactive!

Senator Hatch (R-Utah) has recently introduced into Congress a new bill—S. 2835, the "Health Freedom Act of 1992"—which will amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act in a positive way. S. 2835 will help prevent the overly restrictive government regulations that currently threaten our industry, and will preserve your right to have access to nutritional supplements and to information about the benefits supplements provide. This new law will establish:

1. A broader definition of "dietary supplement" to include herbs and other supplements.
2. Dietary supplements are NOT drugs.
3. Dietary supplements are NOT food additives.
4. Truthful health information about dietary supplements is permitted.
5. The FDA has no prior restraint-authority on truthful labeling or advertising.

If the health food industry and your rights to choose are to be preserved, the Health Freedom Act of 1992 must be passed into law.

This will only happen if you care enough to do the following:

1. Telephone and write personal letters to your Senators and ask them to support the "Health Freedom Act of 1992", S. 2835.
2. Telephone and write to your Congressman/Congresswoman and ask him/her to support the House version of Senator Hatch's bill, S. 2835.
3. Get as many of your friends and relatives as possible to do the same thing.

We're not asking for your money, but something much more important—your time! Please telephone and write to your Senators and Congressmen/Congresswomen immediately. In your telephone calls and letters, use the information contained in the key points below. It is important that you use your own words in these communications in order to make them individualized. Use the information we have provided, but please do not copy it or your correspondence will lack effectiveness. Names, addresses and telephone numbers for the Congressman/Congresswoman and Senators from your state are available at your local health food store, library, telephone book or the elections office of your county court.

If you have any questions, your health food retailer will be more than happy to help you. Thank you for taking an active role in preserving your right to choose the kind of health care and health care products you want.

Remember: the pen is mightier than the sword!

Send A Letter!!!

On November 3rd (Election Day) Let Our New President Know

Congratulate the new president and ask him to respond to:

Please State:

- Leave our supplements alone!
- Don't over regulate my health care choices (H.R.3642, 1662)
- Support S2835, HR5746 for health freedom.
- State to him that we want 3 letters signed by him sent directly to: Citizens for Health (CFH), National Nutritional Foods Association (NNFA) and Nutritional Health Alliance (NHA), stating he will address our concerns regarding the agency he oversees.

Join the Mountains of Mail That Will Be Sent Regarding This Critical Issue

- Have Your Letters Ready!!

Mail to:

Either: President Elect Clinton, State Bldg. #1, Littlerock, AR 72201
President Bush, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., WA DC 20500

KEY POINTS (for letters and telephone calls)

To make your correspondence most effective, please include these key points:

1. Be courteous and use proper titles: The Honorable (name) or Dear Congressman/Congresswoman (name)
2. At the beginning of your correspondence, state a singular purpose for your communication: Passage of the "Health Freedom Act of 1992", S. 2835, introduced by Senator Hatch (R-Utah) (OR Passage of the House version of S. 2835).
3. Make a call to action: I want you to support this bill.
4. Request a response: I look forward to hearing from you soon.
5. Provide your complete return address and telephone number.

TELEPHONE PROCEDURES

When making your telephone calls ask for:

1. Your Senator or Congressman/Congresswoman directly If they are not available, ask for:
2. Your Senator's or Congressman's/Congresswoman's staff director, if they are not available, ask for:
3. Your Senator's or Congressman's/Congresswoman's health policy staff member.

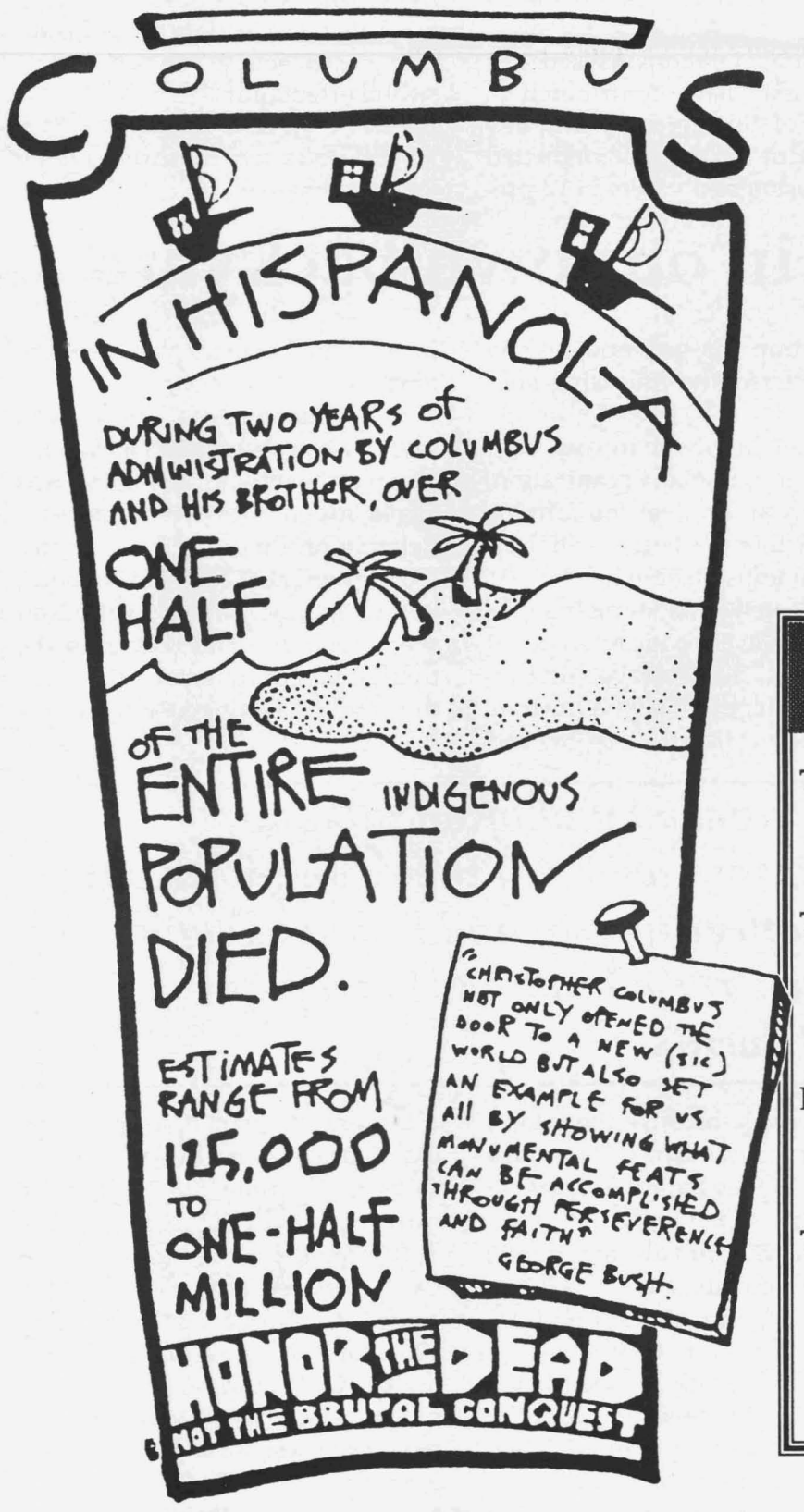
Once you have their attention, express your desire for them to support the "Health Freedom Act of 1992", S. 2835 (OR the House version of S. 2835), and you expect them to work vigorously for its passage.

CFH - P.O. Box 368, Tacoma, WA 98401

NNFA - 150 Paularino Ave, #285, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

NHA - P.O. Box 267, Farmingdale, NY 11735

If the health food industry and your rights to choose are to be preserved, the Health Freedom Act of 1992 must be passed into law.


COLUMBUS
IN HISPANOLA
DURING TWO YEARS of ADMINISTRATION BY COLUMBUS AND HIS BROTHER, OVER
ONE HALF
OF THE ENTIRE INDIGENOUS POPULATION DIED.
ESTIMATES RANGE FROM 125,000 TO ONE-HALF MILLION
"CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS NOT ONLY OPENED THE DOOR TO A NEW (SIC) WORLD BUT ALSO SET AN EXAMPLE FOR US ALL BY SHOWING WHAT MONUMENTAL FEATS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH PERSEVERENCE AND FAITH"
GEORGE BUSH
HONOR THE DEAD
& NOT THE BRUTAL CONQUEST

Quincentennial Protests

Tues 10/6
- **Attend the theatrical production "Ka-Hanuka Pakoos"**
- 7 pm @ TESC Library Lobby
- See page two for details

Thurs 10/8
- **Native American salmon/corn feed** to raise money for cause in San Francisco
- Call Leroy Mills @ 491-1103 or
- Matt at the Indian Center @ 866-6000 x6105

Fri 10/9
- **Vans leaving to go to big demonstration** on 10/12 in San Francisco
- Call above numbers if you want to go

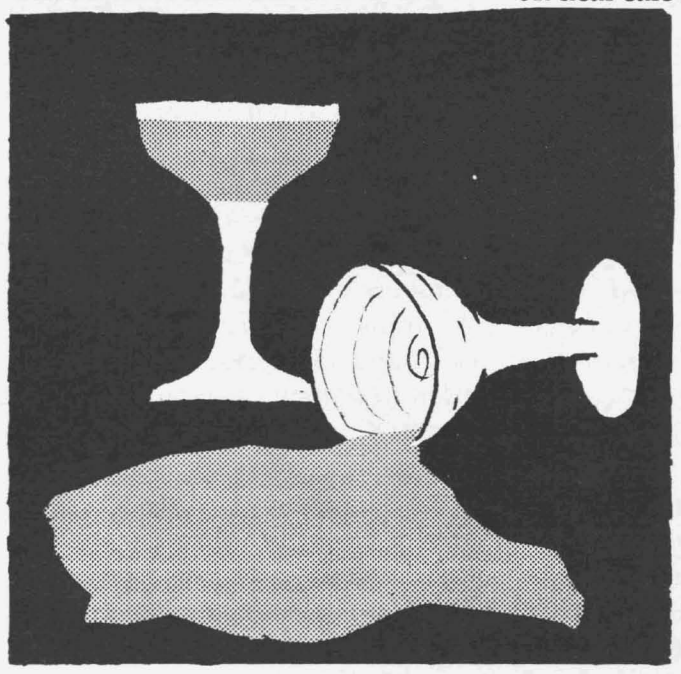
Tues 10/12
- Noon - **Forum** TESC Library Lobby
- 2 pm - **Movies/videos** TESC Lecture Hall II
- 7 pm - **Vigil/protest** downtown
- Call EPIC for details @ 866-6000 x6144

Call any of the numbers to get involved or for more info.

Picketing at St. Martin's Wine Tasting Event

Paul Ortiz

The history of farm worker organizing in the United States is full of tales brimming with tragedy and heroism. Farm workers have been in the forefront of union democracy, but always face monumental obstacles to winning justice in the fields and in their communities.



Ned Cobb, an African-American sharecropper and member of the Alabama Sharecropper's Union (ACU) in the early 1930's is one example of this mixture of tragedy, heroism and democracy. ACU members attempted to halt the wave of Depression-era foreclosures sweeping rural Alabama. For ACU members like Cobb, this was a simple decision: "Now, a organization is a organization, and if I don't mean nothin' by what I say and do, I ought to keep my ass out of it; but if I'm sworn to stand up for myself and stand up for all the poor class of farmers, I have to do it." When Ned Cobb tried to stop four Alabama deputy sheriffs from foreclosing his friend, Clint Webster's, small farm, he was gunned down and sentenced to twelve years of hard labor.

As Cobb's example shows, justice in the fields has been cruelly elusive for people of color. Agribusiness, large growers, and elected officials have excluded farm workers from every significant piece of federal labor legislation in U.S. history. Barred from federal laws, farm workers must fight state-to-state battles for such basic rights as unemployment compensation, child labor laws, minimum wages, and the right to collective bargaining.

One of the latest farm worker freedom struggles is being waged in our own state. Chicano farm workers at the Chateau Ste Michelle grape vineyards in Patteron, Washington have been petitioning the UST (Formerly U.S. Tobacco) owned Chateau Ste Michelle company for union representation. CSM farm workers have repeatedly expressed the desire to be represented by the United Farm Workers of Washington State UFWWS). Their petitions have fallen on deaf ears however.

The CSM vineyard workers say that the company has responded to their requests with arbitrary firings, harassment, and over-hiring to reduce work hours for veteran workers. 33 current and former vineyard workers subsequently filed a lawsuit against Chateau Ste Michelle for violating their right to organize and for failure to adequately post notices in fields that were being sprayed with pesticides.

From the beginning, the struggles of the UFWWS and the CSM vineyard worker-s have intertwined. While the UFWWS were bringing scores of farm workers to the state legislature to testify in support of minimum wage, unemployment, child labor, and pesticide reporting laws, CSM farm workers were driving six long hours every Saturday to picket at Chateau Ste Michelle's model winery at Woodinville, next to Seattle. They came to sing songs, leaflet CSM patrons, and ask consumers to boycott Chateau Ste Michelle wines until the company recognized the farm workers' rights to union representation.

Chateau Ste Michelle has responded to the vineyard workers' pleas with a series of slick moves: Saturday suddenly became a mandatory work day, and according to the lawsuit, union leaders were fired. In 1988, Chateau Ste Michelle hired the Dolphin Group, a right-wing management consultant firm that has worked on destroying the grape boycott in California, developing the Willie Horton ad campaign in the 1988 presidential race, and conducting the "Robert Bork for Supreme Court Justice Campaign" in 1986. The Dolphin Group now apparently conducts Chateau Ste Michelle's propaganda war against the farm workers' efforts by slyly claiming to "believe that farm workers should have the same right to representation that every other worker in America enjoys."

But rather than following this rhetoric with actions, Chateau Ste Michelle continues to attempt to silence its workers in an attempt to keep the truth hidden. When CSM vineyard workers prepared to go to the recent September 6th Sunday farm worker march in Seattle on they were told that the winery was adding a mandatory 10:00 pm shift that Sunday evening. This ensured that CSM farm workers would be unable to attend the march.

Still, with the help of the UFWWS, many CSM farm workers did attend the march and told their stories to the hundreds of sympathizers from the labor, church, and activist communities that came to march with them. CSM farm workers fired up the assembled, and when one speaker asked why white-skinned CSM bottlers and truckers are allowed to unionize while brown-skinned vineyard workers are suppressed, the crowd, white and brown alike, hooted with indignation.

The farm workers stated that the boycott of Chateau Ste Michelle will continue until the corporation holds a fair union election.

In solidarity with the CSM vineyard workers, the Olympia Farm Worker Justice Committee will conduct an informational picket of the October 24th Wine and Food Tasting Event at Saint Martin's College in Lacey. The Saint Martin's Alumni Association, which is sponsoring the event, has been asked to honor the boycott of Chateau Ste Michelle wines, but has responded by saying that since Chateau Ste Michelle paid the vendor fee, it must carry the wines.

The Alumni Association believes that it is above politics and is trying to steer a "middle course" in a "labor dispute" not favoring either side. From the UFWWS standpoint, the Alumni Association is making a political decision when it carries a wine that is involved in violating the basic rights of workers.

The CSM workers began their boycott of Chateau Ste Michelle in order to take their struggle to the public and let each and every consumer make a choice: do you believe in democracy or not? **The UFWWS and the Farm Worker Justice Committee in Olympia invite people to participate in a non-violent informational picket at Saint Martin's October 24th at noon in order to ask consumers to honor the boycott of Chateau Ste Michelle and to express their displeasure at the Alumni Association.** The Association says that the Wine Tasting Event goes towards a good cause: scholarships to Saint Martin's. This is good, but ask yourself this question: how many farm worker children will ever have the opportunity to attend college if their parents are unable to provide for a stable life-style? Call the Alumni Association at 438-4366 in order to express your opinion and call me at 754-4733 if you want to get involved in the boycott.

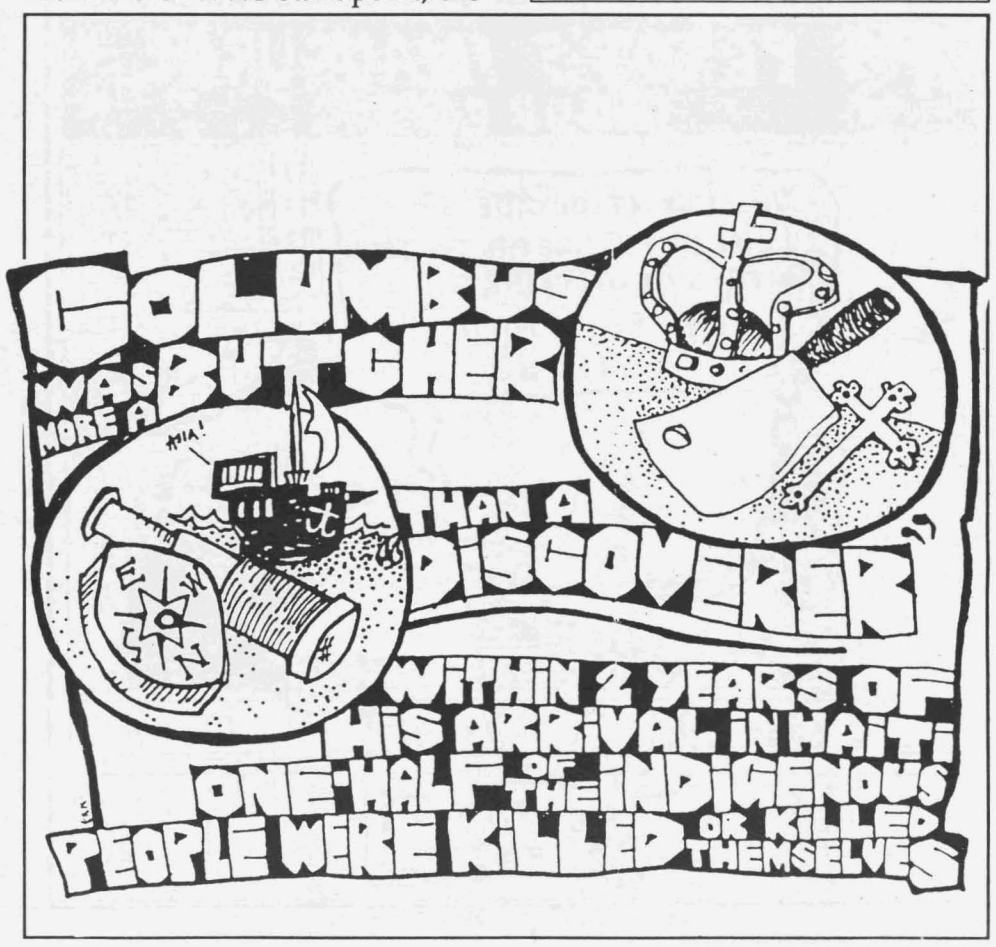
Paul Ortiz is a member of the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace and hosts a social issues Radio show on KAOS, Olympia 1-3:30 PM Thursdays.

. . . ask yourself this question: how many farm worker children will ever have the opportunity to attend college if their parents are unable to provide for a stable life-style?

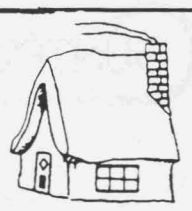
It Starts With You

When we share, it shows we care,
We should do it everywhere,
There is so much we all can do,
But all of it must start with you

George Riffero


COLUMBUS WAS MORE A BUTCHER THAN A DISCOVERER
WITHIN 2 YEARS OF HIS ARRIVAL IN HAITI ONE-HALF OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE WERE KILLED OR KILLED THEMSELVES

David Kindle
Sales Associate



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John S.
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110 S.E. "X" Street
Olympia, WA 98501
(206) 357-3152
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Somali Summer

Jerome Johnson

There's nothing like getting your way.

All year, my roommate and I shared a ritual. I'd come home from work, change clothes then sit in my easy chair and have a brew. While I sifted through my mail my roommate would tell me about her day and what happened in our neighborhood or around the world. She'd click on the news (usually "McNeil/Lehrer") and we'd watch/listen while I started dinner. We'd watch what McNeil and Lehrer thought was news that day, then switch into CNN and/or C-SPAN for (in depth?) coverage. Night after night -- especially into the spring and summer -- we got madder and madder.

"Goddamn racist media," I'd snarl. "Holocaust going on in Somalia, but you'd never know it. Updates every half hour on Bosnia, but I ain't heard nothing about Mogadishu for weeks."

"Well, we know who controls the media," my roommate would reply. "They're white in Bosnia. That's *Europe*." That's what's Boutros-Ghali meant when he called it a "rich man's war'

When Mohammed Siad Barre lost his job in the traditional Third World manner in January 1991, the world shrugged; it was just another coup in Africa. There were more important concerns -- Bosnia, Iraq, Russia. Somalia began to burn, but didn't hear much about it here. The famine took hold, but was brushed aside by the major (and much of the alternative) media. After all, there's always famines in Africa, always have been since the one in Ethiopia.

Once in a while -- maybe once every ten days, two weeks -- we'd get a soundbite. We'd hear about fighting "in the capital, Mogadishu" or " the danger of famine" or "relief workers in Somalia are increasingly hard-pressed..."

Every day -- every half hour, from CNN -- we heard about the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as in depth update lasting at least two to three minutes, sometimes more. In TV news --especially as practiced by CNN --this is a lot of time indeed.

"Bloody hell," I'd growl. "I don't care if they cover Bosnia, but what pisses me off is that they don't cover Somalia *at all*. All this relief going to Bosnia, all this sympathy and attention from the U.N. All this guilt and airlifts and peace-keeping troops (thank God, no Americans yet.) Why can't they do the same for Somalia? It's even worse there--you got a civil war *and* a famine."

"Look at it," my roommate would say. "Bush and hi friends the English and the French are still trying to run the world. It's those same old imperialist countries, trying to tell Iraq what they can do in their own country. Now they're trying to help Bosnia rather than Somalia because after all Bosnia is white, and they're white; and that's where their sympathies lie and they just don't care about those people in Somalia. They're black."

> *. . . [T]his is a Somali problem for the Somalis to solve themselves.*

But in the past few weeks, the media has begun to cover Somalia. Soundbites have grown to items on the TV news, paragraphs in newspapers appear a couple of times a week, C-SPAN has started covering officials testifying to Congress about Somalia. As the Western world became more aware of the holocaust consuming Somalia, aid efforts grew: relief flights became regular, more relief workers arrived.

"It's about damned time," my roommate grumbled.

Indeed--past time. Partly due to a rising cry from the African-American community and mostly due to UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, aid and attention to Somalia grew markedly last spring and summer. Not in proportion to Bosnian aid--that would be too much to hope for--but it grew nonetheless. Yet something is better than nothing; 300,000 have died so far, more than 3,000 die every day, and there are only 1.7 million Somalis.

So, my wish is becoming granted. Now I can catch an update on Somalia every day on CNN. In addition to the regular agencies Canada, Germany and the U.S. and the French have begun airlifting food into Somalia. A Pakistani brigade will soon arrive to protect food distribution and relief workers.

And yet I am uneasy as I write this, because now a force of 2,400 Marines--a complete Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF)--is off the Somali coast, aboard four Navy ships including the helicopter carrier *Tarawa*. Why are they there? The Pentagon says they are there to "coordinate" communications and control with the relief workers and the Pakistanis, but one cannot help but wonder. When pressed, American officials also concede that the force could be used for "search and rescue."

Search and rescue of whom? Under what circumstances?

"Coordination" of communications and control does not require 2,400 Marines--a single ship could do that. The "search and rescue" figleaf also neatly downplays the fact that there are also assault choppers and gunships aboard the *Tarawa*, which would work in close support of those 2,400 Marines.

The terrorists who loosely control Somalia don't like this at all. A Pakistani brigade defending food shipments means they won't be able to hijack supplies easily, and if relief personnel can help and feed more Somalis (because they are safe behind U.N. guns), the warlords will lose what tenuous power they have. That's because the food they hijack from relief efforts is their main weapon ; they can buy loyalty with food. As it is, several thousand semi-organized gunmen are holding a nation hostage, using their weaponry (American and Soviet) to inhibit the delivery of relief . They know that if the Somali people had enough to eat, their violent anarchy would not be tolerated.

The warlords are clever. They have already begun whining about imperialism, striking a vibrant chord because the Marines are there without a U.N. mandate. Even if the U.N. mandate was nothing more than a figleaf (as it was in Iraq) for U.S. intervention, it would be better for the Marines to be operating under such a mandate.

I think the Marines are there in case someone decides that the situation in Somalia has become "untenable" and an evacuation of (white) relief workers is necessary. The MEF would be an ideal force to provide security, and choppers the right aircraft. Additional units are just over the horizon in the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea.

I don't think we need to have a MEF off the Somali coast.

While I'm glad Somalia is finally getting the attention it deserves, we need to remember that this is a Somali problem for the Somalis to solve themselves. I don't want the U.N. to occupy the country -- rather, at most, defend food centers. If U.S. troops are involved, they should be in no greater than battalion strength and under the overall command of Pakistani General Shaheen, the current U.N. commander. The first enemy is the famine: get enough people eating, and they'll be healthy. Healthy people can rebuild (or negotiate the rebuilding) of the national infrastructure. Healthy people can negotiate with the weakened warlords, and maybe, eventually, some kind of solution can be worked out.

As I write this, I think of the deal a Swiss firm just made with one of the warlords to dump more than 550,00 tons of toxic waste in Somalia. At first this bothered me, but then my roommate said, "Hey...that son of a bitch may not be in control of the port the day the ship comes in. And I know that those other guerillas ain't lettin' no ship in unless it has food on it."

Jerome Johnson is the host of Up Front, *Wednesdays 1pm on KAOS.*

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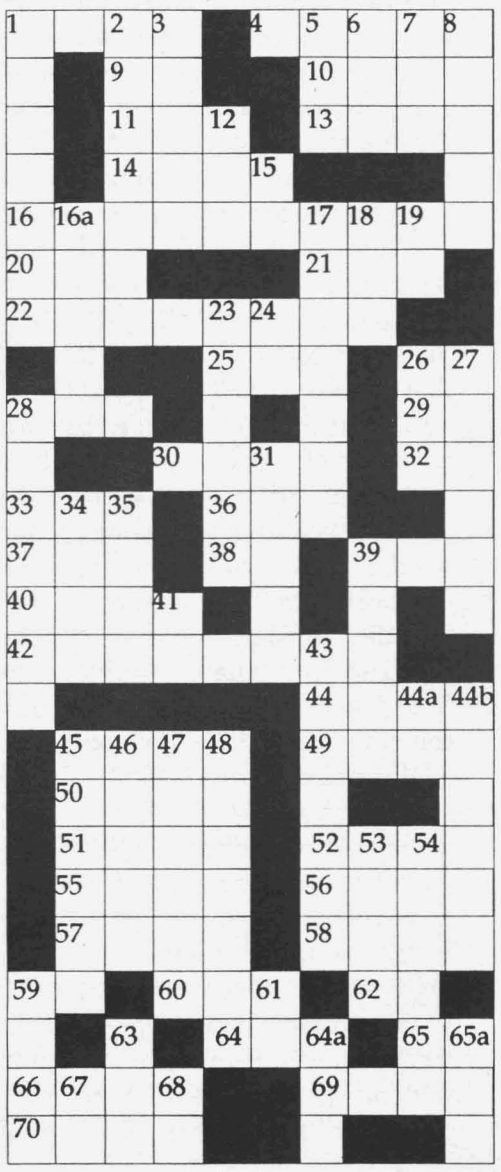

Solution next month

by Jerome Johnson

Across

1. Northwest mayor
4. Spanish city
9. Road, abbrev.
10. Reds 3rd baseman
11. "Much _____ About Nothing"
13. FM 89.3
14. Camper's necessity
16. NCC-1701, USS _____
20. _____ Dawn Chong
21. Industrial Workers of the World, abbrev.
22. Bosnian city
25. He was Cassius Clay
26. Homeworld of the Green Lantern Corps
28. Tumwater Police Dept., abbrev.
29. "____ This House of Brede"
30. Ship's moorage
32. Lord, abbrev.
33. To forbid
36. Equal Rights Amendment, abbrev.
37. Friend, in France
38. Rhode Island, abbrev.
39. Woman's name
40. Vaudeville prop
42. TESC's Director of Recreation and Athletics
44. Politician's tool
45. Not hard
49. "____ & the King of Siam"
50. Dance
51. Singer Redding
52. To have and to _____
55. Tear
56. Actress Joyce
57. Great Lake
58. Phillipine island
59. "____ the World Turns"
60. _____ Lanka
62. Order of the Empire, abbrev.
64. _____ Tay, Vietnam
65. Anno Domini, abbrev.
66. Fabric
69. Rock star
70. Norwegian city

Down

1. Arch-rivals of the Green Berets
2. Artist
3. Newman role: " Fast ___" Felson
5. To request
6. " Daa ____"
7. African tribe
8. TESC soccer coach
12. Hockey star
15. VCR tape speed
16a. Civil Rights group, abbrev.
17. France's is famous
18. ____ Jima
19. Southwest, abbrev.
23. TESC Event Coordinator O'Brien
24. ____ Alamein
26. Saudi 44, for one of its kind
27. Hurricane
28. Carcinogen
31. _____ Maria Remarque
34. Chinese maid
35. How many players on a baseball diamond?
39. Satan's servant
41. Each, abbrev.
43. Native American tribe
44a. Lane, abbrev.
44b. Actor Martin
45. Ocean _____, WA
46. "____ Limits"
47. F' Lances' brother
48. _____ Choice - coffee
53. Butter substitute
54. Clothing manufacturer
59. "_____ Spoke Zarathustra"
61. Jovian moon
63. "____ In The Family"
64a. National Basketball Association, abbrev.
65a. Russian river
67. Not was
68. Knock-out, abbrev.

Conversation with Colonizers

Did I miss something? Did I break a law?
You're glaring at me As if I broke a taboo

Is there a guidebook, an owner's manual, something I should buy?
Did I cross a line that I cannot see?
Did I sign a contract with you that binds me to silence?
Do I have a subscription to your lies?

Am I paid in full?
Did I join your club? Did I vote you in?

Are you my god, my king, my uncle, my boss?
Is it somewhere written that I've sold my soul?

You are screaming at me
That war is peace and murder is benevolence.
Your voice is rising. It's everywhere

I know your story. But I still question you-
Whose land are we standing on?
Whose graves have you ravaged?
And whose blood is on your hands?

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Last Month's Solution

(Parole, continued)

entire length of his sentence. (With the parole board phased out, prisoners are released early to "community supervision," home detention, and a variety of programs for treatment and/or early release.)

The protesters charge that the ISRB is deliberately prolonging their husbands' sentences, adding maximum penalties for violations that ordinarily would be treated as minor, because the board members wish to stay employed.

The day after the protest I called the ISRB and was able to speak with the Chair, Kit Bail, who hadn't heard about the picketing.

Bail called the description of the Board's depiction "ridiculous." She pointed out that the Legislature voted for the latest extension back in 1989, in response to a report the Legislature had requested the Board to make.

The Board has finished its original mission, Bail said, but has received new and contradictory directives from the Legislature. "We [now] have two mandates," Bail said. "One, to go out of business. Two, to protect public safety."

In the past few years, there have been well-publicized instances of prisoners committing violent crimes while out on parole. The Legislature has responded by directing the Board and the Department of Corrections to make more conservative decisions regarding parole or other releases.

"Usually, when we get criticized it's not for keeping people in but for letting them out," she said.

Bail agreed that many "old guideliners" are being "maxed out," but asserted that most of them are in prison for violent crimes. She said that the "old guideliners" fall into two general categories: 1) prisoners whose original sentences, starting before 1981, were lengthy to begin with, and 2) those who have re-offended or violated parole, and so have been repeatedly imprisoned. Both categories, she said, are serious, not "lightweight" offenders.

She agreed that, if prisoners were being "maxed out" for crimes against property or other "non-violent" convictions, something would be amiss.

"Any state agency can make mistakes," she said, and expressed willingness to hear specifics of any complaint. Inmates have the right to a hearing and to write to the Board, she said. Attorneys are provided, and all hearings are open, at least as far as the Board is concerned, she added.

Before phoning Kit Bail, I had talked with a psychiatric social worker, a monk (legally) named Brother David who had offered his card to the women at a Sentencing Guidelines hearing. Somewhat beyond the age when many retire, Brother David described himself as a "grandparent" of the new sentencing guidelines: an advocate who was involved in lobbying for sentencing reform that led to the Act of 1981.

Originally due to complete its mission by 1988, then extended to 1992, the ISRB has received another extension of its deadline until 1998.

After giving me some background on the Sentencing Reform Act, he responded to the protester's accusations.

"Kit Bail is a lovely, capable, sincere, reasonable person," he said, adding that he didn't believe the board was acting with intention to prolong its own employment. "None of these people will have trouble finding a another job", he said. But he had complaints about the Board. "It's everything we hated about the old parole board." he said. He claimed that attorneys are not always allowed at hearings, and that the Board, which reports directly to the Legislature, is too autonomous for good procedural accountability.

("It *is* the old parole board," said Bail, rightly enough, "but attorneys are always present." In response to his other complaints, Bail told me that Brother David is "a private citizen," and influenced by his ministry's focus.)

Both Brother David and the women picketers would be glad to see the ISRB go out of business. Kit Bail argues that she would too, but that the Legislature has already refused to immediately transfer the Board's caseload to the courts and the new guidelines. Bail says that, as things now stand, 1998 is a reasonable deadline; the Board plans to "transition" roughly a third of its current caseload by July 1, 1993.

To the women protesters, 1998 is not soon enough. One woman, saying that her husband is serving 5 years for a drug violation on parole, having never been convicted of a violent crime, fears that her children will grow up without their father.

The half-dozen or so women hope to be a more sizable presence at their second planned protest. "We expected a lot more to come," they told me, describing apathy and a feeling of powerlessness among many other women who they say share their concerns. "People don't speak up because they're afraid," one woman told me.

At their next protest, these women hope to organize with groups of family and friends from other state prisons. Prison ministry groups and the Tennis Shoe Brigade have also offered support, they said.

The protest is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, at 9:00 a.m. at the State Capitol building. Anyone interested in learning more or in helping the organizers of a forming Prisoners' Rights Group, call Janice Stice at (206) 895-1903.

(Global, continued)

policy decisions. Lynn Walker McMullen, the RESULTS US national manager from Olympia, said that "if a representative gets 10 letters on a single bill in a single month, that's a 'wake up.'" Once representatives know enough voters want something changed, they listen.

This type of social change is often a slow and agonizing process, but RESULTS has made some impressive changes. In 1991, RESULTS volunteers helped to get US foreign aid assistance for small scale poverty lending programs in Third World countries. The US AID money was distributed to the Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA), a private, non-profit organization dedicated to supplying economic self-sufficiency to the world's poor. It is rare for governmental aid to go to non-governmental organizations. RESULTS volunteers generated media coverage on how poorly foreign aid money was being distributed, which made a reassessment of funds necessary.

FINCA promotes "village banks" in over 11 countries and 400 communities of the Third World. The average loan is about 56 US dollars and at least 60% of the recipients are women. With a 98% payback rate, these loans are giving the poorest of the poor improvements in areas such as nutrition, family health care, education and self confidence.

Ms. Walker McMullen recently visited El Salvador to investigate some poverty lending banks. Through random interviews she found that poor people, especially women were being empowered through micro-enterprise. No longer did their children have to quit school and work to support their families. Many women were able to literally put roofs over their families heads by producing and selling tortillas. She found them to be very successful.

"Solving hunger problems through self sufficiency is much more effective than waiting for a famine to hit and then sending aid".

US AID's primary concern is creating jobs whereas RESULTS is family subsistence. "Solving hunger problems through self sufficiency is much more effective than waiting for a famine to hit and then sending aid," pointed out Walker McMullen. Poverty lending is different from most US foreign aid because it shifts resources away from the trickle down job creation for the poor, allowing people to create their own jobs. Muhammad Yunus is founder of the Grameen Bank, one of the first poverty lending banks located in Bangladesh. He feels, "Employment per se does not remove poverty. Unless designed properly, employment may mean being condemned to a life in squalid city slums or working for two meals a day for all [of one's] life." Another benefit of these banks is it is easy to track where aid money is being sent, which helps to monitor its effectiveness and reduces the possibility of corruption.

RESULTS volunteers also concentrate on domestic poverty issues. In 1991 alone they played an important role in getting a $250 million increase for WIC (Supplemental food program for Women, Infants and Children), an $80 million increase for domestic immunizations, $250 million increase for the Head Start program, $48 million increase for child survival activities, and a $10 million funding increase for UNICEF. If that was a years list just imagine what they can do over the next ten. These people don't just talk about making changes they actually do them. For more information call the local RESULTS office at 786-9277.

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WIP Schedule

WIP Article submission deadline is Wednesday Thurs., October 15
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Proofreading Meeting Tuesday, October 20
at 7 pm At the Olympia Timberland Library

Policy Meeting
First Tuesdays (Oct 6 & Nov 3) @ 7 pm Call 357-4705 for place.